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BAGHDAD BLAMES BEIRUT EXPLOSION ON 'ARAFAT

JN130840Y Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 0800 GMT 13 Aug 78 JN

[Text] Beirut--The reactionary Palestinian leaderships headed by Yasir 'Arafat committed a new crime at midnight last night by blowing up the headquarters of the Palestinian Liberation Front in Beirut. Police sources said that the explosion led to extensive damage to the building which is located in the Al-Fakahani area. Fires broke out in the building. These sources point out that there are a number of casualties as a result of this criminal deed.

Citing Palestinian sources, UPI reports that the explosion led to the killing or wounding of 80 to 100 people. These sources add that the explosion took place only 30 minutes after the beginning [as received] of a meeting of the Central Committee of the Palestinian Liberation Front headed by Abu al-'Abbas. The sources say that Abu Ahmad Halab, a military official in the front, was seriously wounded as a result of this criminal deed.

UPI reports that the 9-floor building in which the front's headquarters is located was totally destroyed. Rescue teams have been trying in the past few hours to rescue the killed or wounded from the rubble. A rescue worker said that the casualties, whose number is estimated at 100 persons, were buried under the debris. UPI adds that the explosion was caused by charge of highly explosive material weighing 400 kgs.

VOP Reports Statement

JN131654Y Voice of Palestine [Clandestine] in Arabic to Arab World 1600 GMT 13 Aug 78 JN

[Text] An official spokesman of the Palestinian revolution has made the following statement:

The Zionist and imperialist information media have reported the regrettable explosion in a building in the Al-Fakihani area and are trying to fabricate false reasons and false motives aimed at spreading tendentious rumors and sedition among the different factions of the revolution.

However, the Palestinian revolution is fully aware of the real motives behind these enemy attempts. Therefore, the revolution would like to draw the attention of all citizens and the friendly information media to be cautious and alert against such methods and hostile rumors.

PLO Leaders Meet

JN131657Y Voice of Palestine [Clandestine] in Arabic to Arab World 1600 GMT 13 Aug 78 JN

[Text] The PLO Executive Committee and representatives of the Palestinian revolution factions held a meeting this morning, 13 August 1978, under brother leader Abu 'Ammar.

During the meeting, a discussion was held on the current local developments and agreement was reached to continue the meetings. The meeting also dealt with the regrettable explosion which occurred in a building in the Al-Fakihani area and which led to the martyrdom of a number of Lebanese and Palestinian citizens, as well as a number of fighters and their families from all factions of the Palestinian revolution. A number of security measures were decided on to prevent the recurrence of such an incident. A technical committee was also formed to investigate the reasons behind this incident.

The Executive Committee has decided to consider the victims as martyrs of the Palestinian revolution. Earlier last night an explosion occurred in a building in Al-Fakihani area, causing the building to collapse and fire to break out in a paint store in an adjacent building. Fire engines rushed to the scene and got the fire under control. Rescue operations are continuing to remove the casualties.

LEBANESE DRUZE LEADER SENDS CABLE TO 'ARAFAT

JN131737Y Voice of Palestine [Clandestine] in Arabic to Arab World 1600 GMT 13 Aug 78 JN

[Text] Brother leader Abu 'Ammar yesterday received a cable from Shaykh Muhammad Abu Shaqrah, leader of the Druze sect in Lebanon. In the cable he denounced the ugly crimes perpetrated by the Iraqi regime against PLO offices and envoys abroad, the last of which was the crime committed in Paris. The following is the text of the cable:

Brother Yasir 'Arafat, chairman of the PLO Executive Committee: We denounce the successive attacks against your organization's offices and send our condolences to you for the loss of those who died. We offer you our sincerest sympathy and ask Almighty God to fulfil your aspirations and grant victory to your just national cause.

PLO OFFICIAL MEETS DIRECTORS OF PLO OFFICES

JN111703Y Voice of Palestine [Clandestine] in Arabic to Arab World 1600 GMT 11 Aug 78 JN

[Text] Brother Abu al-Lutf [Faruq Qaddumi], head of the PLO Political Department, held a meeting today in the Fatah Foreign Relations Office with the directors of PLO offices abroad. The meeting was attended by brother Abu Hatim, official in charge of Fatah foreign relations. The radio correspondent has learned that, during the meeting, the current political situation was assessed and the latest developments in the Palestinian issue on all levels were discussed.

IRAQI, KUWAITI OIL MINISTERS DISCUSS OIL PRICES

LD111445Y Oslo ARBEIDERBLADET in Norwegian 8 Aug 78 p 14 LD

[By Tor-Johan Maskhus]

[Excerpt] Iraqi Oil Minister Tayeh 'Abd al-Karim told ARBEIDERBLADET that the price level for oil ought to be corrected now, but unfortunately it is impossible so long as there is great disagreement among the countries, and the major producer, Saudi Arabia, is inflexible in its views.

OPEC's inflation index shows a rise in costs of 160 percent, apart from the dollar's depreciation. Today's oil price of $12.70 per barrel corresponds to a real price of $4 at the 1974 level.

"We hope that account will be taken of all aspects, and then it will be possible to obtain a rise in prices on which all members agree," the minister said, adding:

"We do not demand compensation for all the losses which this has entailed. But a reasonable compensation for the dollar rate is appropriate. The developing countries need the oil revenue. It is often their only revenue," the Iraqi oil minister said, and on most points he is supported by Kuwaiti Oil Minister 'Ali al-Khalifah as-Sabah. The latter has long spoken in favor of a drastic rise in oil prices and greatly stressed his view at the last OPEC meeting.

"The price of crude oil has been stable for several years now. Because of the dollar's weakening position and because of inflation in recent years, it is not reasonable to keep the present prices. If the prices of coal are compared with that of oil, the price of oil would have risen [presumably per barrel] by 25-30 Norwegian kroner," the minister said.

"If the Arab countries raised the price of oil, this would affect the entire world economy. It is impossible for us to hold down oil prices at the artifically low level at which we believe it is today. We have the opinion, and it is confirmed by several calculations from various sources, that today's price is approximately 40 percent too low, compared with the price for crude oil was realistic. All the oil-exporting countries in OPEC were agreed on that," Al-Khalifah as-Sabah said.

Neither of the two oil ministers concealed the fact that there is strong disagreement within OPEC on the level at which crude oil prices should be. That impression was also confirmed at the June OPEC meeting.

It was stressed several times to us that it is politics and the far too close friendship between Saudi Arabia and the United States which are the reasons why the prices have not now been raised. It is speculated that the expected aircraft sale to Saudi Arabia from the United States has been of significance in this context. Many people do not ignore the fact that President Jimmy Carter plainly told the king and the oil minister of Saudi Arabia that the aircraft sale could be of interest if that country promised to keep oil prices at the same level for a while yet.

OPEC OFFICIAL: PRICE INCREASE NOT CONTEMPLATED

LD120924Y Riyadh SNA in Arabic 0800 GMT 12 Aug 78 LD

[Text] Washington--Dr 'Ali Jiddah, secretary general of OPEC, said that member-states of OPEC were not contemplating raising oil prices. He was replying to a question from the Washington correspondent of the Saudi paper AL-JAZIRAH about the reported possibility of raising prices by 5 percent. Dr Jiddah is in Washington in connection with his duties as secretary general of OPEC.

ARAB MONETARY FUND DISCUSSES LOAN TO EGYPT

JN121706Y Abu Dhabi EMIRATES NEWS AGENCY in Arabic 1640 GMT 12 Aug 78 JN

[Excerpt] Abu Dhabi, 12 August--Dr Jawad Hashim, chairman of the Arab Monetary Fund, and several of his assistants met today at the fund's head office in Abu Dhabi with an Egyptian economic delegation currently visiting the UAE. The Egyptian delegation is headed by Muhammad 'Abd al-Fattah Ibrahim, chairman of the Central Bank of Egypt. During the meeting, the conferees discussed a draft agreement to loan 4,685,000 dinars--approximately $17 million--to Egypt. The two sides will hold further discussions tomorrow to prepare for signing the agreement.

ARAB TRADE UNION OFFICIALS MEET, CONDEMN IRAQ

JN131346Y Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1215 GMT 13 Aug 78 JN

[Excerpts] Leaders of Arab workers in Syria, Jordan and Palestine have called for an extraordinary meeting of the ICATU Central Council to study the current developments in the Arab working class and its unions in view of the new activities of the Arab struggle.

This call was made at a meeting held today in Damascus by Comrade 'Izz ad-Din Nasir, chairman of the General Federation of the Syrian Trade Unions; brother Fathi an-Naji, chairman of a Jordanian Trade Union; and brother Fathi ar-Raghib, chairman of the Palestinian Trade Union.

The conferees also reviewed the current situation and the crimes of the Iraqi regime, which is carrying out treacherous and conspiratorial acts against the Palestinian revolution and its cadres aimed at liquidating and eliminating the Palestinian revolution. There is no doubt that the acts of the Iraqi regime are in harmony with the designs of imperialist and Zionist forces and their allies in the area. Moreover, the Iraqi regime offers arms and aid to the Phalangists and Sham'unist gangs which cooperate with Israel.

DPA: SOVIETS BACK FATAH; PLO TALKS WITH IRAQ

NC111402Y Cairo DPA in Arabic 1437 GMT 11 Aug 78 NC

[Text] Beirut, 11 August--The weekly magazine AS-SAYYAD reports today that the Soviet Government has made more promises to back the Palestinian liberation movement; at the same time, the Kremlin has urged the Palestinian fedayeen to seek "more world aid." The magazine adds that the Soviet pledges to extend more aid were made to a delegation of the Fatah fedayeen organization, which has visited Moscow recently. This is considered the first visit made to Moscow by an independent delegation of the Fatah organization. The Fatah delegation was headed by PLO Chairman Yasir 'Arafat.

Meanwhile, reliable information received in Beirut notes that talks are underway in Baghdad to bring about a reconciliation between Iraq and the PLO.

The discussions between Iraq and the PLO have been attended by representatives of the leftist Lebanese Nationalist movement, which is linked to the Palestinian fedayeen by ties of close cooperation. The dispute betwen Iraq and the PLO ensued from the death of a number of PLO representatives and the attacks to which the Iraqi embassies in non-Arab countries have been subjected over the past few months.

FUNERAL SET FOR PALESTINIANS SLAIN IN PAKISTAN

JN092056Y Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1915 GMT 9 Aug 78 JN

[Text] The bodies of the three martyrs of the Palestinian revolution who were assassinated on Saturday in Pakistan by the intelligence organs of the Baghdad regime of killers arrived at Damascus International Airport today. They are Muhammad Khadir Yusuf az-Zawr, Muhammad Khan Far and Sa'd Muhammad Abu Mi'tih.

The three bodies were received at the airport by a solemn procession in which several cadres of the Palestinian revolution and the Revolution Cubs participated. Revolutionary songs were sung to greet the martyrs and the Palestinian revolution. The funeral of the three martyrs will take place tomorrow, Thursday.

BAHRAIN

AL-ADWA' PESSIMISTIC ON CAMP DAVID SUMMIT

JN1210llY Manama GULF NEWS AGENCY in Arabic 0900 GMT 12 Aug 78 JN

[Text] Manama, 12 August--The Bahraini newspaper AL-ADWA' published here today expresses pessimism about the tripartite talks to be held in Camp David next month among Egyptian President Anwar as-Sadat, U.S. President Carter and Israeli Prime Minister Menahem Begin.

AL-ADWA' says: We know and the world knows that negotiations are a way to bridge a gap in means, not ends. However, the situation existing between Egypt and Israel is a difference over the ends not the means. How then can the negotiations achieve rapprochement, particularly in view of the differences over the ends?

The paper then speaks about the differences which will prevent an agreement to establish peace in the Middle East. It says: Israel insists on keeping the occupied areas while Egypt insists on not relinquishing one inch of the Arab lands. Furthermore, Egypt wants approval of the principle of establishing a national homeland for the Palestinians while Israel does not recognize anything called Palestine or Palestinians.

The paper expresses its surprise over the urgent U.S. endeavors to resume the negotiations. It says: Why can't the United States be frank with itself and with the world, declare that the reason for the failure of the peaceful endeavors is Israel and then deal with Israel accordingly? The paper describes the Camp David talks as part of a game of orchestrated maneuvers, with Israel beginning a new one at the end of each maneuver.

KUWAIT

MINISTER LEAVES FOR OFFICIAL VISIT TO BELGRADE

LD111812Y Kuwait Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 11 Aug 78 LD

[Text] Minister of State for Cabinet Affairs 'Abd al-'Aziz Husayn left Kuwait this afternoon for Belgrade for a 3-day official visit to Yugoslavia, during which he will hold talks with officials there on a number of issues of common interest.

SAUDI ARABIA

ATHERTON APPRECIATES SAUDI SUPPORT FOR CAMP DAVID MEETING

LD112246Y Riyadh SNA in Arabic 2200 GMT 11 Aug 78 LD

[Text] Jidda, 11 August--U.S. roving ambassador in the Middle East Alfred Atherton has expressed the extreme appreciation of the United States for Saudi Arabia's support for the Camp David meeting.

In a statement at the end of his visit to the kingdom today, Atherton said that he has seized the opportunity of his visit to the kingdom to convey to the Saudi Government, at the request of U.S. Secretary of State Cyrus Vance, the U.S. Government's views with regard to the chances of peace in the Middle East, and at the same time to hear the views of the Saudi Arabian Government in this respect.

Atherton said that the talks he has had with Prince Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, the crown prince and deputy prime minister, and Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal, the foreign minister, have as always been marked with the traditional hospitality of the Saudi people and with friendship and understanding--the hallmark of the special relationship between the kingdom and the United States.

The American roving ambassador said that President Jimmy Carter's call for the holding of the Camp David meeting indicates U.S. determination to help create an agreed framework for the realization of peace. He expressed his hope that the Camp David talks will lead to further progress on the road to a just and lasting peace which is sought by all.

RIYADH VIEWS OUTLOOK FOR CAMP DAVID MEETING

LD112015Y Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic 1800 GMT 11 Aug 78 LD

["Event of the Week" program commentary]

[Excerpts] Perhaps one of the most significant events that characterized this week was the U.S. initiative for a tripartite meeting of Egyptian President Anwar as-Sadat, Israeli Prime Minister Menahem Begin and U.S. President Carter at Camp David, near Washington, on 6 September. This initiative proves the U.S. recognition of Israel's obduracy and the danger it poses not only to peace in the Middle East but also to world peace.

Undoubtedly, to many international observers the Camp David meeting represents the last chance for Israel to abandon its arrogance and its insistence on its rigid position and to show greater flexibility compatible with the clear Egyptian flexibility which manifested itself in past talks.

On our part, we do not believe that the chances of success of this summit conference will be better than the chances of past meetings at which Israel persisted with its defiance of international will. By its flagrant stubbornness, Israel thwarted the meetings of the tripartite committee in Jerusalem, the Cairo committee meetings and the meeting at Leeds Castle in Britain and will spare no effort in thwarting this coming summit meeting.

Nobody expects the summit meeting to succeed unless the United States puts forward a plan of its own in line with the UN resolutions and forces Israel to accept it without paying any attention to what Israel loves to call security requisites, which in its parlance means the stationing of its troops in the occupied Arab territories--a matter which conflicts with all peace plans in the area.

If the forthcoming tripartite meeting among Presidents as-Sadat and Carter and Prime Minister Menahem Begin actually constitutes the last attempt to bring the Egyptian and Israeli views closer in regard to the establishment of peace in the area and if it derives its importance from the fact that by this initiative President Carter has transformed his country into a principal partner in the peace operation in the region, the failure of this conference would be fraught with great danger. For should it take place, that failure will mean the loss of the last card in the U.S. hand within the framework of bringing the conflicting views of Egypt and Israel closer. It will also mean the squandering of the last chance open to Israel to return to the right path and realize that it cannot gain peace and territory at one and the same time.

In view of this, we do not believe that the United States, which is entirely capable of forcing Israel to move toward compromise, will permit this meeting--which was announced following an urgent meeting between President Carter and prominent Senate members and members of the Senate's Foreign Relations Committee--to fail. The failure of the conference to reach positive results will seriously affect President Carter's chances for a second term as President of the United States. This fact has prompted many political circles throughout the world's capitals to believe that the U.S. President will intensify his pressure against Tel Aviv to save the conference from failure.

On the other hand, the announcement of the conference has come at a time when signs of relaxation in inter-Arab relations have begun to loom over the horizon. This heralds the good tidings of the return of Arab solidarity and unity of ranks as a result of the successive great efforts by loyal sons of this nation who care for its near and far interests, particularly at this current crucial stage when the Arab world is facing irresponsible, repeated provocations by the Israeli enemy who would be happy to see the division in the Arab arena continue.

UAE

ERITREAN DELEGATION ARRIVES IN ABU DHABI ON 3-DAY VISIT

JN131039Y Manama GULF NEWS AGENCY in Arabic 0935 GMT 13 Aug 78 JN

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 13 August--An Eritrean delegation headed by Ramadan Nur al-Amin, secretary general of the Eritrean Popular Liberation Front, arrived here today on a 3-day visit to the UAE. The Eritrean delegation will hold talks with UAE officials on the latest developments in the situation in Eritrea.

YEMEN--PDRY

EDUCATION MINISTER LEAVES FOR VISIT TO U.S.

LD121500Y Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1400 GMT 12 Aug 78 LD/EA

[Summary] Minister of Education Sa'id 'Abd al-Khir al-Numban left Aden today for Washington to hold final talks with World Bank officials on the second education loan for the PDRY. The loan will finance educational establishments in the various governorates.

D[illegible]CUSS MIDDLE EAST CRISIS

N 121317Y Cairo MENA in Arabic 1303 GMT 12 Aug 78 NC

[Text] Cairo, 12 August--At their meeting this afternoon, Foreign Minister Muhammad Ibrahim Kamil and U.S. Ambassador in Cairo Hermann Eilts discussed the various aspects of the current developments in the Middle East crisis. This meeting is part of the diplomatic contacts between Egypt and the United States to prepare for the tripartite summit to be held at Camp David in September, which will be attended by President Anwar as-Sadat, U.S. President Jimmy Carter and Israeli Prime Minister Menahem Begin.

OCTOBER: WAR POSSIBLE IF U.S. TALKS FAIL

NC131005Y Cairo MENA in Arabic 0847 GMT 13 Aug 78 NC

[Text] Cairo, 13 August--The weekly magazine OCTOBER describes U.S. President Jimmy Carter's decision to call for the tripartite Camp David meeting as a serious decision representing direct and positive U.S. participation in solving the Middle East dispute.

The magazine today publishes an article by its chief editor, Anis Mansur, in which he says: The establishment of peace in the Middle East is the biggest test to which the U.S. leadership is subjected. The only touchstone for testing the mettle of the U.S. leadership exists in this area alone. The only person qualified to achieve peace in this area is the U.S. President.

In his weekly article Anis Mansur says that something has happened which is no less serious and important than President Anwar as-Sadat's visit to Jerusalem. This is the announcement by the United States that it is a full partner in the issue of the Arab-Israeli dispute. It is this fact which prompted President Carter to invite President as-Sadat and Israeli Prime Minister Menahem Begin to a summit meeting at Camp David.

The writer then points out that the United States has a definite and direct interest in peace, that this opportunity which it provided to the two sides of the Middle East dispute might be the last, and that if it does not lead to peace there will be no peace for Israel or for the United States.

Anis Mansur then says that the United States and Israel are aware that the possibility of war exists, that military operations could begin at any moment, that Washington and Tel Aviv exchanged messages regarding the Egyptian military movements, and that Egypt sometimes raises the degree of military preparedness among its forces.

Anis Mansur points out that many efforts are being made to determine what might happen at the Camp David meeting. He says: Based on the experience of the past 10 years, the possibilities of failure are great. Peace cannot be achieved easily, but U.S. President Carter cannot be indifferent to the solution of the Middle East dispute because the attempt to establish peace is the greatest test to which the U.S. leadership is subjected.

Anis Mansur adds: President Carter's decision in this regard is not only vital to him as a U.S. President but it is vital to the United States as a country.

His decision must define the sacrifice which the United States is required to make in order that Israel may not be a danger to peace and a harbinger of the loss of the U.S. interests in the Middle East and Africa and in confronting the Soviets throughout the world.

In his article the writer refers to the efforts made to hold the Camp David meeting. He refers to the two messages of President Carter which U.S. Secretary of State Cyrus Vance delivered to President as-Sadat and Menahem Begin. He says that President Carter then expressed his readiness to come to Sinai.

Concerning President as-Sadat's forthcoming visit to the United States to attend the Camp David meeting, Anis Mansur says that President as-Sadat and the official delegation which will accompany him will go straight to Camp David and then go to Washington. The president might respond to an invitation to visit Canada and on his way back. He might stop in Britain and West Germany.

CAIRO RADIO ON ISRAEL, CAMP DAVID CONFERENCE

NC111445Y Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 11 Aug 78 NC

[By Fawzi Surur]

[Excerpts] According to reports from Israel, what political observers have termed as the countdown for the Egyptian-U.S.-Israeli summit conference to be held in Camp David on 5 September began yesterday. The reports conveyed a picture of Tel Aviv's interest in the conference by citing as an example the statement which Israeli Prime Minister Menahem Begin made yesterday. Begin said that his government will hold a series of political discussions in the next few weeks in preparation for the Camp David conference. During these discussions the Israeli Government will comprehensively review its foreign policy. It will study every document related to the conference and might be compelled to adopt important decisions in this respect.

U.S. President Carter's intervention has been received with extreme satisfaction, particularly his undertaking that the United States will play the part of a positive partner and not that of a voluntary mediator full of good intentions regarding the cause of peace.

It is not strange that everybody everywhere expects the United States to translate its good intentions into established facts, especially since it has declared that it does not oppose the need for Israeli withdrawal from the occupied Arab territories and the solution of the Palestinian people's issue in a manner consistent with their legitimate rights to self-determination and the establishment of their independent state on their national soil.

Therefore, the issuance of a declaration of positions will not be sufficient, since this has been overtaken by events. There is no alternative to a declaration of commitment to the implementation of the principles of withdrawal and the solution of the Palestinian issue on the basis that these two principles constitute the only practical basis for the establishment of the desired peace in the Middle East--peace that is consistent with international legitimacy and the UN resolutions, particularly UN Security Council Resolution 242. Resolution 242 must be one of the prominent elements that should be put forward for discussion at the Camp David conference, especially since two parties--the United States and Egypt--have declared their support for the resolution as the only sound, logical basis for solving the Arab-Israeli conflict.

...esident has announced his extreme satisfaction with the approval to ... David conference. This conference is considered as tantamount to a real test of Israel's intentions and Begin's future behavior with regard to the cause of peace.

There are some facts which must be present before the eyes of the Tel Aviv rulers. Foremost among these facts is that the questions of withdrawal and the Palestinian cause are not a prior condition but an indispensible basis for the attainment of peace.

Therefore, it will be a waste of time to again enter into the labyrinths of the previously known traditional manuevers. Stability and peace will not be established in the Middle East without complete and total withdrawal from all the Arab territories. There will be no security or safety in the area unless the Palestinian issue is solved.

CAIRO RADIO EXAMINES ISRAEL'S SETTLEMENT POLICY

NC1408l0Y Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 0600 GMT 14 Aug 78 NC

[By Ibrahim Taha]

[Text] The report which we have just heard indicating that the Israeli Government intends to set up five new settlements in the West Bank of Jordan affirms the statements by Ari'el Sharon, Israeli agriculture minister and chairman of the ministerial committee on settlements, to the effect that Israel will double the number of Israelis residing in the West Bank and that Sharon will present to the Israeli Government a new expansion plan for the establishment of settlements.

The two reports affirm that Israel is continuing to establish new settlements in the occupied Arab territories. There are no accurate statements on the settlements because Israel as much as possible evades talking about this subject, which is denounced by the whole world, and because Israel deliberately issues vague and reserved statements in this respect. However, it is definite that the number of settlements now well exceeds 70, the figure at which the study conducted by the U.S. State Department in 1970 stopped.

Furthermore, on 14 August 1973, Israel radio announced that the number of settlements which had been built before 1973 was 44, in addition to 4 then under construction. The radio added that the residents of these settlements numbered some 5,000 Israelis. Israel radio said that there was a plan to build 35 new settlements which would raise the number of these settlements to over 80.

There can be no doubt that the figures given on the settlements and residents are much greater because the information available to the Arab delegations to the United Nations in 1972 confirmed that Israel had by then established 52 settlements. Furthermore, Israel radio itself announced on 9 September 1972 that there were 55 settlements.

Thus, the Israeli statements and figures on the settlements have always conflicted, in an attempt to hide facts. But the sole fact which Israel cannot hide, and does not really even try to hide, is that Israel is continuing to build new settlements, despite the fact that the world community, headed by the United States, denounces these measures.

AS-SADAT TO VISIT AUSTRIA AFTER U.S. TALKS

NC1407107 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0650 GMT 14 Aug 78 NC

[Text] Cairo, 14 August--The newspaper AL-AHRAM reports today that President Anwar as-Sadat will visit Vienna after the tripartite summit conference at Camp David, to brief Austrian Chancellor Bruno Kreisky on the results of the conference. The president will then travel to Salzburg, Austria, where he will spend 2 days prior to his return to Cairo. The paper says that the date of the president's visit to Austria depends on when the summit meetings in Camp David will end.

The paper says that the preparations and date of the conference, as well as the subjects to be discussed, were the subject of deliberations in the past few days between Foreign Minister Muhammad Ibrahim Kamil and U.S. Ambassador to Egypt Hermann Eilts.

The paper says that if the 'Id al-Fitr holiday begins on 3 September President as-Sadat is scheduled to fly from Suez on the same day for Paris, where he will spend the evening with French President Giscard d'Estaing. He will leave Paris on 4 September and go directly to Camp David, where he will be received by U.S. President Jimmy Carter at a nearby airport. The U.S. President will then accompany President as-Sadat to Camp David. Each president will be accompanied by a very limited number of people, not to exceed nine.

The paper says: As for the subjects to be discussed, the United States has asked the Egyptian and Israeli sides to draw up a complete visualization of the subjects and to agree on the issues that will be discussed. The United States will remain in touch with Cairo and Tel Aviv during the next 2 weeks to crystalize all the ideas in a working paper which the United States will study with the two sides in order to draw up the final schedule of work and decide on the manner in which the discussions at the Camp David summit will take place.

AL-AKHBAR ANSWERS TASS COMMENT ON CAMP DAVID

NC1307377 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0640 GMT 13 Aug 78 NC

[Text] Cairo, 13 August--The newspaper AL-AKHBAR today comments on the lies reiterated by the Soviet information media about the tripartite summit meeting to be held in Camp David, at which the Soviet media say U.S. President Jimmy Carter will present a proposal on stationing U.S. troops in the Middle East as a guarantee for a planned separate deal between Egypt and Israle. The paper strongly attacks these Soviet slanders and the subsequent threat by TASS that if this proposal is implemented it will meet a most resolute rebuff from the independent Arab states, the socialist states and the Soviet Union.

The paper says that this fantasy reiterated by the Soviet information media and the subsequent threat indicate the bitter pain and great disappointment which Moscow is experiencing, particularly toward Egypt. Moscow will never forget that Egypt defeated the Soviet monopoly and its ambitions in the Middle East and that Egypt liberated itself and its cause from Soviet trusteeship.

The paper adds that Moscow is well aware of the fact that Egypt is not seeking a separate deal and has openly rejected this. However, Moscow fabricates allegations and lies and talks about the so-called separate deal and the stationing of U.S. troops in the Middle East.

The paper describes the lies reiterated by TASS as allegations unworthy of discussion and deserving no attention, and an example of the hallucinations which the Soviet information media are currently experiencing.

ARAB SOCIALIST PARTY TO JOIN AS-SADAT PARTY

NC140630Y Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 2330 GMT 13 Aug 78 NC

[Text] The Political Bureau of the Arab Socialist Party of Egypt met tonight under the chairmanship of Mamduh Salim, the prime minister and head of the party. Information and Culture Minister 'Abd al-Mun'im as-Sawi has stated that those attending thoroughly discussed the internal and external situations.

As-Sawi said that the Political Bureau has issued the following statements: At this decisive phase in the history of Egypt and Arabism; in view of all the fateful issues abroad and those at home involving political, social and economic reconstruction, in moving toward the phase of security, prosperity and peace; and at this phase which is being led by the nation's leader, President Anwar as-Sadat, toward the democratic development and crystallization of the Egyptian national and revolutionary edifice within the framework of party democracy which has ended the system of one part and one viewpoint; the Political Bureau of the Arab Socialist Party of Egypt--representing all the levels of the party, assuming the pan-Arab and historical responsibility toward the unity of this revolutionary current, and believing in the unity of the Egyptian revolutionary struggle and its continuity in the course of which every Egyptian generation assumes responsibility for the sacred struggle against imperialism--announces the position of the Arab Socialist Party of Egypt within the framework of the unity of the patriotic, fateful and revolutionary forces as the basis for the unity of the home front and the unity of the Egyptian people.

The Arab Socialist Party of Egypt, in its capacity as an integral part of that Egyptian revolutionary current in its contemporary struggle--and while at the beginning of the return of party democracy the party has shouldered the responsibility for representing the policy line of the 23 July and 15 May revolutions, a line the sweeping majority of the Egyptian people adopts and in which it believes completely--has always placed itself in its natural position under the leadership of the announcer of the 23 July Revolution and the leader of the 15 May Revolution, President as-Sadat.

Even prior to the announcement of the establishment of the democratic party system, the party members believed in this honorable and patriotic current. They were also soldiers who supported the national duty in all the battles waged by the 23 July and 15 May revolutions.

Therefore, the Arab Socialist Party of Egypt--and the masses of the people--adheres to the leadership of President as-Sadat in the contemporary struggle. Under the banner of this leadership, it has been possible for the Egyptian people to rid themselves of the hegemony of neocolonialism and to achieve the victory of 6 October. Furthermore, the restoration of liberties, the supremacy of the law and the state of institutions have served as the basis needed for exercising sound party democracy.

Out of belief in unity and the historical connection with this current, through the unity of the patriotic and revolutionary forces at every phase, through the unity of the pan-Arab objectives and the authentic Egyptian policy line, through the unity of positions on the fateful issues, through the unity of the pan-Arab leadership represented by President as-Sadat, and after the leader and president has announced that he has joined in the leadership of the political and party action, the Arab Socialist Party of Egypt has expressed its unanimous desire to collectively join the ranks under his leadership. The movement of the party members to join the ranks has come as an expression of this desire through personal positions and free opinion.

Therefore, after the Political Bureau of the Arab Socialist Party of Egypt has studied its pan-Arab policy line in this revolutionary current and its responsibility for the unity of this current, the Political Bureau announces that it is imperative for this unity to be confirmed under the leadership of the leader and president for party action on the grounds that President as-Sadat's leadership is a fateful and decisive responsibility at a time when the Egyptian people are confronting all their internal and external issues.

The Political Bureau of the Arab Socialist Party of Egypt affirms that first of all this proclamation emphasizes that all the popular bases of the Egyptian people stand in solidarity with unity and steadfastness behind the leader at the tripartite meeting at Camp David, which has been called for by the U.S. President. By so doing, the popular bases are expressing the Egyptian people's support for leader As-Sadat in order to recover the Egyptian and Arab rights and insure security and peace on the basis of justice represented in the return of the land and sovereignty and the Palestinian people's legitimate rights.

Furthermore, by proclaiming this statement the Political Bureau confirms the unity of the authentic and patriotic Egyptian struggle in facing the enemies of this struggle. The Political Bureau also confirms that this unity is represented by unity of action in facing the issues which were left over from the past and which are facing us at present and by the unity of action to insure the future for the upcoming generations within the context of the historical leadership represented by President as-Sadat.

CAIRO COURT UPHOLDS SEIZURE OF AL-AHALI

NC112303Y Cairo MENA in Arabic 2210 GMT 11 Aug 78 NC

[Text] Cairo, 11 August--The South Cairo Court today upheld the order to seize and confiscate the 24th edition of the newspaper AL-AHALI issued last Wednesday.

At the session held today under the court chairman, Counselor Anwar 'Abd al-Fattah Abu Sahla, the court based its decision on the fact that the newspaper AL-AHALI, organ of the Egyptian leftist party, seeks in its political articles to stir up sedition at all levels. The seized edition contained a defense of the Soviet-led Warsaw pact despite the Soviet Union's hostile attitude toward the Arab brothers in Ogaden and Eritrea and its political and military support designed to exterminate the Somali Arabs in Ogaden and the Moslems in Eritrea.

The seized edition also dared to interpret the Holy Koran according to the whims of the party which issues the newspaper. This is something proscribed by the positive law and by God.

The prosecution office of the State Supreme Security Court the day before yesterday received a report from the state intelligence service indicating that it had seized the 24th edition of the newspaper AL-AHALI for containing topics and articles threatening social peace and national unity in Egypt. The report said that the newspaper was seized to avoid the harmful consequences that could arise if the edition were allowed to be circulated. The chief prosecutor of the State Supreme Security Court upheld the order to seize the newspaper. He referred the matter to the South Cairo Court, which upheld the order to seize and confiscate the newspaper at the session it held today.

PEOPLE'S ASSEMBLY MEMBERS JOIN NEW PARTY

NC1122200Y Cairo MENA in Arabic 2120 GMT 11 Aug 78 NC

[Text] Cairo, 11 August--Many People's Assembly members this evening submitted applications to join the National Democratic Party which President Anwar as-Sadat has decided to form. The applications were received by Muhammad 'Abd ar-Rahim Radwan, the party's secretary for People's Assembly affairs.

The first list of the People's Assembly members who joined the party include:

Engineer 'Uthman Ahmad 'Uthman, Kamal ash-Shadhili, Mrs Nawal 'Amir, Fayidah Kamil, Dawud Da'bub, Rajab as-Sa'di, 'Abd al-Bari Sulayman, Sayyid Jalal, Fikri Makram 'Ubayd, Muhammad 'Abd ar-Rahim Radwan, Sayyid 'Abd al-Ghaffar, 'Abd al-Akhir Muhammad, 'Abd al-Akhir, Ahmad Fu'ad 'Abd al-'Aziz, 'Abd al-'Al al-Jarihi, Ahmad Salih Mahmud, Al-Husayni 'Abd al-Latif, Al-Ma'mum Mashali, Tawfiq Zaghlul, Mazhar Abu Kurayshah, Hafiz Badawi, Hasan 'Id 'Ammar, Muhammad al-Jazzar, Salah 'Abu al-Majd, 'Abd al-Qadir Abu Bakr Muhammad, Mustafa Sulayman, Mu'adh Isma'il 'Abdallah, 'Umar Abu Sutayt, Ihab Muqlid, 'Abd ar-Rahim 'Abd ar-Rahman Sawi, 'Abd ar-Ra'uf Muhammad 'Uthman, Muhammad Nabil Abu as-Su'ud, Ahmad Abu Zayd Tantawi, 'Abbas Safiy ad-Din, Sufi Abu Talib, Yusuf Nassar, Muhammad 'Azzam, Shadhili, Tawfiq, Sami Abazah, Amrallah Baligh, Fathi al-Wakil, Fathi al-Kilani, Muhammad Mutwalli Burayqi', Fawzi al-'Umdah, Muhammad ash-Sharif, Mahmud Ahmad Murad, Lutfi al-Masri, Ahmad 'Abd al-'Azim, Abu al-Hamad Muhammad Sayyid, Mahmud Shu'ayr, Ahmad al-'Aysawi, Husayn 'Izzat, Muhammad al-Batran, 'Ulways 'Ulaywah, Fathallah al-Maraghi, 'Abd al-Maqsud Hamzah, Majdi Kashak, Salah Tawfiq, Muhammad 'Abd ar-Rahman Qarqur, Shamil Abazah, Ibrahim Abu al-Fadl ad-Dabi', Mahmud Salam Abu 'Uqayl, Mahmud as-Sayyid 'Abd ar-Rahma, 'Atiyah al-Fayyumi, Kamal Mar'i, Abu Bakr Hamad al-Basil and Abu Shadi al-Kilani.

A total of 66 People's Assembly members joined the National Democratic Party this evening.

Muhammad 'Abd al-Hamid Radwan, the party's secretary for People's Assembly affairs, said tonight that he will continue to receive until Monday at the People's Assembly Club applications from People's Assembly members to join the party.

It should be recalled that the parliamentary body of the National Democratic Party will be composed on the basis of the total number of the People's Assembly members who have joined the party.

FRONT CONDEMNS INTER-PALESTINIAN FIGHTING

JN131709Y Baghdad INA in Arabic 1610 GMT 13 Aug 78 JN

[Text] Baghdad, 13 August--The General Secretariat of the Progressive National and Nationalist Front has strongly denounced the base aggression carried out by Palestinian reactionaries against our embassies abroad. At a meeting held here today under Front Secretary Na'im Haddad, the front discussed the situation in the Arab area and the imperialist-Zionist-reactionary activities aimed at imposing a humiliating and capitulatory solution on the Arab nation.

The front expressed regret over the disputes among the Palestinian resistance groups. It said that the continued disputes among the resistance groups will only serve the enemies of the Arab national liberation movement and of the Palestinian cause. These disputes will eventually serve capitulatory plans.

The front highly praised the principled stand of the political leadership of the Ba'th Party and revolution in Iraq in support of the Arab struggle, the Palestinian issue and the Palestinian revolution to enable it to play its real role in the struggle against imperialist-Zionist aggression.

LEBANESE NATIONALIST MOVEMENT DELEGATION LEAVES

JN111054Y Baghdad INA in Arabic 0950 GMT 11 Aug 78 JN

[Text] Baghdad, 11 August--A delegation from the Central Political Council of the Lebanese Nationalist Movement led by Comrade George Hawi, assistant secretary general of the Lebanese Communist Party, today ended a 3-day visit to Iraq.

In a statement to INA, Comrade Hawi said that the talks the delegation had with the comrades at the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party National Command, which were crowned by the delegation's meeting with President Ahmad Hasan al-Bakr, revealed identical views on the tasks involved in confronting the imperialist, Zionist and reactionary conspiracy aimed at imposing a capitulatory settlement and dealing a blow to the unity and Arabism of Lebanon. Comrade Hawi praised the stand of support and concern of the Iraqi leadership on the unity of Lebanon, the Palestinian resistance and the Arab progressive forces. He also praised Iraq's continued affirmation that division must be avoided in the ranks of the progressive forces by adopting the process of democratic dialog.

At the airport to bid farewell to the delegation were Comrades Dr 'Abd al-Majid ar-Rafi'i and Tariq 'Aziz, members of the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party National Command; Comrade Radi Farahat, assistant secretary of the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party Regional Command in Lebanon; and Comrade 'Abd al-Husayn Musallam, director of the Palestine and Armed Struggle Office at Arab Socialist Ba'th Party National Command.

SAUDI KING'S ENVOY ARRIVES IN BAGHDAD

JN121710Y Baghdad INA in Arabic 1645 GMT 12 Aug 78 JN

[Text] Baghdad, 12 August--Saudi Deputy Defense Minister [title as received] Prince Turki al-Faysal arrived here this evening. In a statement on arrival, the Saudi envoy said that he will convey a message to President al-Bakr from King Khalid and another message to Saddam Husayn, vice chairman of the Revolution Command Council, from the regent, Prince Fahd. He added that the two messages are related to current Arab developments. Prince Turki al-Faysal was received at Baghdad airport by Hamid 'Alwan, minister of state for foreign affairs and acting foreign minister.

Received by Saddam Husayn

JN131038Y Baghdad INA in Arabic 1010 GMT 13 Aug 78 JN

[Text] Baghdad, 13 August--Saddam Husayn, Revolution Command Council [RCC] vice chairman, this morning received Prince Turki al-Faysal, envoy to Saudi King Khalid ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz. Prince Turki conveyed to Saddam Husayn a verbal message from Crown Prince and First Deputy Prime Minister Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz. The 1-hour meeting was attended by Hamid 'Awan, minister of state for foreign affairs and acting foreign minister.

Leaves for Amman

JN131122Y Baghdad INA in Arabic 1115 GMT 13 Aug 78 JN

[Text] Baghdad, 13 August--Prince Turki al-Faysal, special envoy of Saudi King Khalid ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, left Baghdad for Amman today. In Baghdad the Saudi envoy conveyed a verbal messae to Saddam Husayn, Revolution Command Council vice chairman, from Saudi Crown Prince Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz. In a predeparture statement, Turki al-Faysal described the outcome of his visit to Iraq as extremely good. He said his visit to Iraq was part of the consultations between the two fraternal countries.

SOMALI LIBERATION FRONT DELEGATION ARRIVES

JN122015Y Baghdad INA in Arabic 1950 GMT 12 Aug 78 JN

[Text] Baghdad, 12 August--Mahmud 'Ali ar-Rawbah, secretary general of the Somali Liberation Front, arrived here tonight on a visit of several days to Iraq as part of a tour of several Arab states. Ar-Rawbah, who is heading a delegation of the front, stated that he will brief officials in the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party National Command on the latest developments in Somalia. Ar-Rawbah and the delegation accompanying him were received by a number of officials from the Palestine and Armed Struggle Bureau at the party's National Command.

SADDAM HUSAYN RECEIVES PDRY FINANCE MINISTER

JN122028Y Baghdad INA in Arabic 1940 GMT 12 Aug 78 JN

[Text] Baghdad, 12 August--Saddam Husayn, Revolution Command Council [RCC] vice chairman, tonight received PDRY Finance Minister Fadl Muhsin 'Abdallah. During the meeting 'Abdallah conveyed a verbal message from 'Ali Nasir Muhammad, chairman of the PDRY Presidential Council and prime minister. They reviewed relations between the two fraternal countries and the situation in the Arab area. The meeting was attended by RCC member 'Adnan Husayn; Mundhir 'Uraym, Foreign Ministry under secretary; and the PDRY Embassy adviser in Baghdad.

Minister Leaves

JN131457Y Baghdad INA in Arabic 1440 GMT 13 Aug 78 JN

[Text] Baghdad, 13 August--PRDY Finance Minister Fadl Muhsin 'Abdallah left Baghdad today at the end of a 4-day visit to Iraq. During the visit, the PDRY minister met with Saddam Husayn, Revolution Command Council vice chairman, and conveyed to him an oral message from 'Ali Nasir Muhammad, PDRY Presidential Council chairman and prime minister. In a predeparture statement, 'Abdallah said that the message deals with the situation in the PDRY in particular and with the Arab situation in general. He expressed his happiness at visiting Iraq and stated that his country is eager to have Iraq's support. He further said that viewpoints between the two countries were identical concerning joint issues.

TURKISH OFFICIAL ARRIVES IN BAGHDAD WITH MESSAGE

JN121836Y Baghdad INA in Arabic 1720 GMT 12 Aug 78 JN

[Text] Baghdad, 12 August--Nazif Cuhruk, assistant secretary general in the Turkish Foreign Ministry [title as received], arrived here this evening. He stated that he is carrying a written message to Saddam Husayn, Revolution Command Council vice chairman, from Turkish Prime Minister Bulent Ecevit pertaining to the good relations existing between the two countries.

Saddam Husayn Receives Message

JN131202Y Baghdad INA in Arabic 1125 GMT 13 Aug 78 JN

[Text] Baghdad, 13 August--Saddam Husayn, Revolution Command Council [RCC] vice chairman, has received a written message from Turkish Prime Minister Bulent Ecevit dealing with the relations between Iraq and Turkey.

The message was conveyed to the RCC vice chairman by Nazif Cuhruk, assistant secretary general of the Turkish Foreign Ministry [title as received], during their meeting here today. During the meeting, they reviewed the relations between the two neighboring countries and the means to develop them for their mutual benefit. The meeting was attended by 'Adnan Husayn, RCC member and planning minister; Mundhir 'Uraym, Foreign Ministry under secretary; and the Turkish ambassador in Baghdad. The Turkish envoy arrived in Baghdad yesterday.

BAGHDAD VOICE OF EGYPT COMMENTS ON CAMP DAVID

JN121721Y Baghdad INA in Arabic 1500 GMT 12 Aug 78 JN

[Text] Baghdad, 12 August--The Voice of the Egypt of Arabism has said that the As-Sadat regime is now working to deal a blow to the Egyptian nationalist movement before the Camp David meeting convenes on 5 September.

The radio said the Egyptian Nationalist Movement believes that the Camp David meeting, which will be attended by Anwar As-Sadat, Menahem Begin and Jimmy Carter, will work for agreement to establish a new U.S. base in the occupied Sinai as a guarantee for the Zionist entity. The radio added that this agreement, the secret provisions of which have already been prepared, also includes not allowing the limited Egyptian military force to go beyond the beginning of the passes region in the Sinai. The agreement will also demilitarize the remaining area of the Sinai.

The Voice of the Egypt of Arabism said the new agreement will be an extension of the second disengagement agreement between the As-Sadat regime and the Zionist entity. It will be in the form of a bilateral agreement to be signed in Camp David. The radio added that dealing a blow to the Egyptian nationalist movement and the Egyptian National Progressive Unionist Grouping Party is part of the general scheme of the As-Sadat regime in preparation for signing this bilateral agreement.

On the other hand, the radio said that a new organization called the Black Saturday Egyptian Group has started to distribute leaflets in Cairo calling for the overthrow of the As-Sadat regime.

ATHERTON MAKES STATEMENT ON ARRIVAL IN AMMAN

JN111252Y Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 11 Aug 78 JN

[Text] The American Middle East envoy, Alfred Atherton, arrived in Amman today in the course of his current mission in the region.

In a statement upon arrival, he said he has been asked by Secretary of State Cyrus Vance to inform his majesty the king about the present status of the peace process and in particular, President Carter's decision to invite President as-Sadat and Israeli Prime Minister Begin to a meeting at Camp David on 5 September.

Mr Atherton said he very much looks forward to conveying the U.S. Government's thinking about the Camp David meeting to the king, and to hear his views, which he has always welcomed and appreciated.

Mr Atherton came from At-Ta'if, where he briefed Saudi leaders on the latest American peace efforts during 2 days of talks there.

Meets With Information Minister

JN121223Y Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 12 Aug 78 JN

[Text] Information Minister and acting Minister of State for Foreign Affairs 'Adnan Abu 'Awdah received at noon today U.S. roving ambassador in the Middle East Alfred Atherton. During the meeting, they exchanged views on the forthcoming tripartite summit meeting in Camp David. The meeting was attended by the U.S. charge d'affaires in Amman.

Received by Husayn

JN130858Y Amman Domestic Television Service in Arabic 2100 GMT 12 Aug 78 JN

[Text] His Majesty King Husayn received in Al-Hashimiyah Palace this evening U.S. roving envoy Alfred Atherton. Atherton reviewed for his majesty the results of the talks which U.S. Secretary of State Cyrus Vance had held in the area. He also reviewed the framework of the U.S.-Egyptian-Israeli meeting at Camp David.

Atherton heard His Majesty King Husayn's views on the current situation in the area and on Jordan's stand toward the peace efforts and developments in the Middle East.

His Majesty King Husayn stressed that U.S. President Carter's initiative to intercede personally to revive the peace process and put U.S. presidential weight on the balance of a just and peaceful settlement is a big step and demonstrates U.S. interest at the highest level to achieve progress toward a just settlement in the area.

His majesty expressed the hope that the meeting the U.S. President called for at Camp David will provide a chance to establish principles for a just peace based on applying Resolution 242 according to the correct interpretation which the world has accepted. He also expressed the hope that the meeting will emphasize the principles of complete withdrawal and of solving the Palestine question on the basis of self-determination to the Palestinian people and insuring security for all parties.

Concludes Visit, Departs

JN131107Y Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1100 GMT 13 Aug 78 JN

[Text] The U.S. envoy to the Middle East, Alfred Atherton, left Amman this morning for home after a 2-day visit to Jordan. During the visit, Mr Atherton had talks with His Majesty King Husayn and a number of high-ranking officials on the latest Middle East developments.

Press Comments

JN131036Y Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 0615 GMT 13 Aug 78 JN

[Press review]

[Excerpts] The editorials of today's papers highlight the firm Jordanian stand explained by His Majesty King Husayn to Alfred Atherton last night. This stand deals with the bases of real peace in the area.

Commenting on the subject, the newspaper AD-DUSTUR writes: King Husayn was eager to couple the concept behind President Carter's personal intercession to revive the peace process with the hope that the Camp David meeting will provide a chance to establish the principles for a just peace, based on applying Security Council Resolution 242 as it is correctly interpreted by the world. The emphasis is on the principle of complete withdrawal, solving the Palestinian question on the basis of self-determination for the Palestinian people and insuring security for all parties.

It is obvious that King Husayn, by doing this, has reaffirmed the Jordanian stand which holds that the establishment of a just and all-embracing peace dictates that all parties abide by the resolution and not weaken it by any such interpretations as those being fabricated by Israel. This is in addition to recognition of the Palestinian people's right to self-determination.

AD-DUSTUR adds: It goes without saying that the Jordanian stand is a principled one that has not changed even for one moment, despite the tendentious Israeli campaigns which have tried to depict it as a negative stand, not interacting with the efforts that are being exerted in the search for peace. Jordan is certainly and undoubtedly interested in the establishment of a just and comprehensive peace in the area. But at the same time, Jordan believes that the conditions Israel is clinging to, with the aim of staying in the occupied Arab territories and denying the rights of the Palestinian people to self-determination, constitute obstacles to the peace process. Jordan believes that these obstacles are unacceptable and non-negotiable.

Under the headline "The Road to the Aspired to Peace," the newspaper AL-URDUN says: In his talks with U.S. roving ambassador in the Middle East Alfred Atherton, His Majesty King Husayn reaffirmed Jordan's support for the achievement of a just peace in the area based on the termination of occupation and the just and comprehensive solution of the Palestinian question in accordance with the principle of self-determination.

This Jordanian stand, which is committed to the Arab right, was and still is the basis for Jordanian moves on the Arab and international levels. This stand, the paper adds, stems from well-established convictions that the Arab nation will not relinquish any of its basic rights and that any settlement not based on these principles would not achieve the just and durable peace aspired to by the area's peoples. Hence, Jordan's commitment to its present stand means commitment to the peace concept.

The newspaper AR-RA'Y writes: King Husayn has reaffirmed Jordan's constant support for the achievement of a just peace in the area in accordance with the termination of occupation and the just and comprehensive solution to the Palestinian question, based on the principle of self-determination. This affirmation places before the American side the only road which would lead to the establishment of real peace in the area. Hence, U.S. diplomacy is asked to widen its contacts to include all the sides and forces directly connected with the solution of the conflict so that everyone will be assured of the outcome of the Camp David summit. In this way the newborn baby will be a real peace and not the illusion, deception and misleading that have emerged from previous meetings.

While we appreciate the efforts President Carter has exerted and continues to exert to solve the Arab-Zionist conflict, we still want him to formulate his convictions on the basis that the Arabs are seeking a just and all-embracing peace, not peace at any price or submission to a fait accompli imposed by Israel.

KING HUSAYN RECEIVES SAUDI PRINCE TURKI AL-FAYSAL

JN132116Y Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 2100 GMT 13 Aug 78 JN

[Text] His Majesty King Husayn received His Highness Prince Turki al-Faysal, envoy of His Majesty Khalid ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, king of Saudi Arabia, in the Royal Hashemite Court this evening. The Saudi prince delivered a message from King Khalid on the developments of the situation in the area and the means of strengthening the Arab stand. Prince Turki al-Faysal arrived in Amman this afternoon as part of a tour of a number of Arab countries.

CROWN PRINCE HASAN RETURNS HOME FROM U.S.

JN131551Y Amman JNA in Arabic 1528 GMT 13 Aug 78 JN

[Text] Amman, 13 August--Crown Prince Hasan and Princess Tharwat returned home this afternoon at the end of a private visit to the United States.

BAGHDAD VOP: BADRAN RECEIVES MESSAGE FROM EGYPT'S KAMIL

JN111907Y Baghdad Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1830 GMT 11 Aug 78 JN

[Text] The prime minister of the royal Jordanian regime in Amman last night received a message from Muhammad Ibrahim Kamil, foreign minister of the Egyptian regime. It was reported that the message, which was conveyed to Badran [Jordanian prime minister] by the ambassador of the Egyptian regime in Amman, deals with the results of the talks recently held in Alexandria between Anwar as-Sadat, president of the Egyptian regime, and U.S. Secretary of State Cyrus Vance.

AD-DUSTUR ASKS AS-SADAT NOT TO CEDE RESOLUTION 242 AT CAMP DAVID

JN121807Y Amman AD-DUSTUR in Arabic 12 Aug 78 pp 1, 15 JN

[Editorial: "The United States Between Mediation and Partnership"]

[Text] After the United States announced that it will change its role from that of a mediator to that of a full partner in seeking a comprehensive solution to the Arab-Israeli conflict, we had better remind our people that throughout the stages of this conflict the U.S. role has never had the quality of a mediator in view of the special relationship linking the United States with Israel.

This relationship has prevented the United States from adopting a neutral stand and has made it a partner deeply involved in favor of Israel. As such, the United States has provided and is providing Israel with all its requirements for survival, strength and expansion. So, what kind of partnership does the United States want to exercise now? What is new about this partnership?

U.S. officials have stated that the concept of partnership was agreed on between President as-Sadat and Cyrus Vance during their talks in Alexandria. This concept, however, has so far remained shrouded with secrecy, a matter which is surprising because Israel must have been informed of this concept.

Needless to say, President as-Sadat is not a mediator because Egypt is an original party to the question and is committed to it with the other Arab parties participating in the issue. These Arab parties have not lost the right to know the concept which As-Sadat and Vance agreed on even though some of these parties accepted the Egyptian initiative unwillingly, some remained silent about it and still others rejected and attacked it.

Even if we are most optimistic and assume that Washington has pledged to submit its own proposals to reach a settlement, such a pledge must not be construed as victory for the Arabs because the special relationship between the United States and Israel constitutes an important factor in the U.S. view of the Arab-Israeli conflict. For this reason, we must warn that the role of full partner which Washington has promised to play at Camp David may be intended as a way to submit proposals aimed at weakening and circumventing Security Council Resolution 242 under the pretext of reaching a compromise. Resolution 242 was adopted not to be negotiated, but to bind others to be committed to it.

It goes without saying that none of the sides which will meet at Camp David has the right to bargain over Resolution 242. If such a thing happens, any agreement reached among these parties on a compromise concerning Resolution 242 will indeed be a setback. Arab land and the Palestinian right to self-determination cannot be subjected to bargaining or compromises.

Thus, the Camp David meeting will not be successful if it results in a declaration on an agreement on a framework of peace if this framework excludes or circumvents the Security Council resolution, or pushes it toward a compromise. Real success will be in President as-Sadat's adhering to the resolution as a minimum which must not be ceded even if such adherence would prevent a declaration. In other words, we maintain that an announcement to the world by President Carter after the Camp David conference will not be important if this announcement comes as a result of cheapening Arab rights. What is important is not to cheapen the Arab rights even if this angers Washington.

BUTRUS: U.S. ENVOY'S PERCEPTION FAULTY, DELAYS PROGRESS

NC111323Y Voice of Lebanon [Clandestine] in Arabic to Lebanon 1115 GMT 11 Aug 78 NC

[Text] Following his return to the Foreign Ministry from the Republican Palace, Minister Fu'ad Butrus saw the reports received from Lebanese diplomatic missions abroad.

Upon leaving the Foreign Ministry, Minister Butrus denied that General Erskine, the commander of the UN forces in the south, conveyed new proposals yesterday on advancement of the Lebanese Army units stationed at Kawkaba.

He was asked: Is it true that Israeli conditions are hampering the advancement of the Lebanese military unit to its designated positions in the south and that Lebanon has rejected these conditions? He answered: There is some truth in this.

Asked whether the question of the advancement of the army units stationed at Kawkaba is being facilitated with time, Minister Butrus answered: We are staying in our place.

The foreign minister was asked: Has Ambassador Parker conveyed to Lebanon his government's attitude toward the military unit stationed in the south? He replied: I believe that in several respects U.S. Ambassador Parker's concept of the question of the south lacks realism and does not take some considerations into account. It is for this reason that we have not made considerable progress.

PRESIDENT RECEIVES FOREIGN MINISTER, OTHERS

JN111205Y Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1030 GMT 11 Aug 78 JN

[Excerpt] At 0930 today President Ilyas Sarkis held a meeting in the Presidential Palace with Minister of Foreign Affairs and Defense Fu'ad Butrus. During the meeting a review was made of the general situation and the result of the security measures taken in the capital yesterday. The meeting ended at 1145, when Butrus left the Palace without making any statement.

At noon today President Sarkis met the parliamentary committee, comprised of 'Adil 'Usayran, Dr 'Ali al-Khalil and Muhammad 'Ammar, which was formed from the (?central) parliamentary group. The committee briefed the President on the results of the discussions at the group's last meeting and its views on the current situation. The committee was also briefed on the president's views on this situation.

UN DELEGATE TUWAYNI SPEAKS TO LEBANESE TELEVISION

NC112111Y Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 11 Aug 78 NC

[Text] In a telephone conversation from New York, Lebanon's permanent UN representative, Ghassan Tuwayni, this evening spoke with the Lebanese television about the status of the UN emergency forces in southern Lebanon and the possibility of turning these forces into deterrent forces.

Asked whether the United Nations can assign a deterrent role to its forces in Lebanon if Israel continues to cling to its stands, Tuwayni said: UN Security Council Resolution 425 is very flexible. However, the basic interpretation given to the resolution and the main mission given to the emergency forces limit them to carrying out a peace-keeping role--no more.

However, if the Lebanese authorities want to obtain a new definition of the mission of the emergency forces--and it is ultimately the Lebanese authorities who must make such a request--they must then approach the Security Council again. This, of course, requires the submission of the issue from a new angle, not only to the UN Secretariat General but also to the great powers concerned, which must agree to this. The issue must also be submitted to the states which have contributed troops.

Asked whether a request for a Security Council meeting can be considered as the last card Lebanon has to play, he said: It is the last card. Several cards precede it--if such an expression can be used. The first stage is represented by the intensive consultations currently taking place between Beirut and New York and between Beirut and the capitals concerned. The second stage can be a formal message clearly confronting the states with their responsibility. However, all this should be part of a diplomatic strategy decided upon in Beirut, not in New York, in the light of the current consultations.

I believe the only thing which must be stated now is that it must not be inferred that the present predicament represents the whole issue under discussion or that there is only one course left for us to follow. There are, of course, other approaches. It might not be wise to divulge them before we adopt them.

Discusses Southern Lebanon

NC131215Y Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1030 GMT 13 Aug 78 NC

[Text] Lebanese permanent UN Delegate Ghassan Tuwayni has emphasized that U.S. President Jimmy Carter's administration is now exerting intensive efforts to prevent the complication of developments in southern Lebanon--developments that might have repercussions on the Camp David summit conference which will convene on 5 September.

In a statement to the newspaper ASH-SHARQ AL-AWSAT AD-DUWALIYAH [International Middle East newspaper] Tuwayni said that the problem of southern Lebanon is the result of the improper implementation from the beginning of the contents of Resolution 425. This precluded the proper deployment of the UN forces in the border area. It also prevented the solution of the question of the presence of irregular Lebanese forces there.

He asserted that the presence of irregular forces in the south has led to the creation of an abnormal situation which Israel has sought. It is feared that the dimensions of this abnormal situation will be greater than the mere question of the legitimate Lebanese Army's movement from one place to another. He pointed out that the solution that is now being sought on the spot in the south is only an outward manifestation of the political crisis which must be solved. Attempts are being made on more than one level to solve this crisis.

SARKIS, AL-HUSS DISCUSS LATTER'S VISIT TO DAMASCUS

NC131140Y Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1030 GMT 13 Aug 78 NC

[Text] Prime Minister Dr Salim al-Huss contacted the Security and the Arab Deterrent Forces Commands today to learn the developments in the security situation, particularly the continuing work to recover the living and the dead from under the debris of the building which was demolished by an explosion this morning. The building is located in the Al-Fakhani quarter of the capital.

Prime Minister al-Huss went to the Presidential Palace in B'abda this morning, where he was received by President Ilyas Sarkis at 1145. During his meeting with Prime Minister al-Huss, President Sarkis will outline the subjects which the prime minister will discuss with Syrian officials during his visit to Damascus tomorrow.

More on Visit

NC131614Y Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1530 GMT 13 Aug 78 NC

[Text] The evening journal representative has learned that Prime Minister Dr Salim al-Huss will leave Beirut for Damascus at 1300 tomorrow to meet with Syrian Prime Minister Muhammad 'Ali al-Halabi. Prime Minister al-Huss will then go to Latakia by plane at 1600 to meet with President Hafiz al-Asad and hold talks with him. The talks will be attended by Prime Minister al-Halabi and Foreign Minister 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam. President al-Asad will then invite everybody to a fast breaking dinner. Another session of talks will be held between President al-Asad and Prime Minister al-Huss on Tuesday before the latter returns to Beirut.

SHAM'UN SAYS NO TO RENEWAL OF ARAB FORCES MANDATE

NC131209Y Voice of Lebanon [Clandestine] in Arabic to Lebanon 1115 GMT 13 Aug 78 NC

[Text] Former President Camille Sham'un has held a press statement in which he commented on Prime Minister al-Huss going to Damascus. He said: We know nothing about the itinerary. As far as we are concerned, one thing is clear and we will not go back on it. We say: No renewal to the mandate of the Arab Deterrent Forces, not even for a short period. This is our opinion and we want to make it clear to Prime Minister al-Huss.

PRESIDENT SARKIS RECEIVES DEPUTY AMIN AL-JUMAYYIL

NC121132Y Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1030 GMT 1 Aug 78 NC

[Text] President Ilyas Sarkis received Deputy Amin al-Jumayyil at the Presidential Palace today and reviewed with him new developments in the situation. The meeting lasted 1 hour. Answering a question after the meeting, Deputy Amin al-Jumayyil said: If talk is gold, then deeds are diamonds. Answering another question, he affirmed that there were no obstacles and that matters have not exacerbated.

Asked about the question of Jisr Bayrut and whether the positioning of the security forces there would be delayed, Al-Jumayyil said: This is no problem.

BEIRUT PAPER SAYS RIGHTISTS RECEIVE TANKS FROM ISRAEL

NC130930Y Cairo MENA in Arabic 0854 GMT 13 Aug 78 NC

[Text] Beirut, 13 August--The Lebanese newspaper AS-SAFIR reports today that Lebanese President Ilyas Sarkis has received a detailed report on the quantity of arms which the rightist Lebanese front recently received from Israel.

Quoting sources close to the Lebanese Presidential Palace, the paper says that the report lists the number of tanks, the quantity and quality of arms and the way these arrived in Juniyah harbor which is controlled by the rightist militia. The paper says that the arms include Sherman tanks. A statement issued by the Arab Deterrent Forces last week noted that Sherman tank fire was used against these forces for the first time.

VOICE OF LEBANON REPORTS CLASH BETWEEN FEDAYEEN

NC111234Y Voice of Lebanon [Clandestine] in Arabic to Lebanon 1115 GMT 11 Aug 78 NC

[Text] There was an armed clash at 0400 today in the western area of Burj al-Barajinah between elements of a number of Palestinian organizations.

The details of the incident are that these elements, bearing automatic weapons, were carrying out their morning training. They passed the traffic circle near the Kuwaiti Embassy and then headed for the Riyad as-Sulh Palace toward the airport traffic circle, en route to the Ar-Rumul area in Burj al-Barajinah. Upon their arrival at their destination, some of these elements fired a number of rounds, which made the As-Sa'iqah organization intervene and clash with those who had fired. During the 30-minute clash, four persons were hit.

A while ago the Voice of Lebanon received information noting that three RPG's had fallen in the Al-Majadilah quarter, the post office and the mills locality in 'Ayn ar-Rummanah. Snipers continued to fire on these areas; no casualties, however, have been reported.

INA REPORTS ON DETERIORATING SECURITY SITUATION

JN121531Y Baghdad INA in English 1500 GMT 12 Aug 78 JN

[Text] Beirut, 12 August--The security plan in Beirut during the last twenty four hours proved itself not more than a fragile truce, liable to break-down any moment, aspired for [as received] by all warring factions to start a new round of clashes.

The multi-arm shooting that beseiged the districts of Beirut has shattered all optimistic feelings.

Yesterday deterioration in the Al-Ashrafiyah area, which was initiated by the rightist militia with tank-bombardment, did not stop despite the acceptance of the militia of a cease-fire decision. Clashes continued till dawn this morning.

Press reports here confirmed that the truce has stumbled in a way or another and the area is on the verge of new disparities and tensions.

The conservative and pro-government AN-NAHAR daily expected that remaining months of this summer will witness political and information escalation accompanied by dangerous and limited military practices to create a state of tension without any explosion till the end of the summer.

The paper added that the situation will be solved by: either a peaceful procedure determined by Arab and international moves, or through the military explosion, which is prevalent for the time being.

On the southern flank, fears rose from the continuing frozen state till post-Camp David meeting on 5 September next, or post-Geneva conference if it is to be convened.

Waiting all these developments the Lebanese Government is studying with all local, Arab and international circles a way out for their units bogged down in the south, particularly when it completely abandoned the idea of withdrawing these units.

[illegible] alternatives are facing the Lebanese Government:

1--Flying these units by the United Nations planes to the supposed positions of Tibnin area.

2--Mobilizing new units via the southern coast.

3--Clashing with the rightist militia.

4--Putting the case again before the U.N. Security Council.

5--Freezing the whole situation including present state of Lebanese units.

It is expected that the government will resort to the fifth alternative particularly with the absence of a decisive government political will.

VOICE OF LEBANON ON FIGHTING IN AL-ASHRAFIYAH

NC111950Y Voice of Lebanon [Clandestine] in Arabic to Lebanon 1915 GMT 11 Aug 78 NC

[Text] At 1930 today--less than 48 hours since the security arrangements agreed upon--rockets and artillery shells suddenly began to pour on the Al-Ashrafiyah area. The reasons for this intensive shelling--which reminds us of the bad nights which Al-Ashrafiyah has seen in the past 40 days--are not yet known.

At-Tahwitah, Furn ash-Shubbak, the Palace of Justice area and 'Ayn ar-Rummanah are also being subjected to concerted shelling. A short while ago, the Hotel Dieu Hospital came under heavy shelling, prompting the hospital administration to move the sick and the wounded to shelters.

We have learned that a number of people have been wounded and have been taken to hospitals. Fires have broken out in a number of buildings. Firemen have been unable to extinguish the fires because of the heavy shelling. Electric power has been disrupted for about an hour in some eastern areas of Beirut due to the shelling.

Further on Incidents

NC111930Y Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1910 GMT 11 Aug 78 NC

[Text] Ladies and gentlemen, we have just received the following: a responsible source in the Arab Deterrent Forces Command has stated the following: There was total calm in Beirut and its suburbs today. The calm was broken only by some sporadic shooting which did not result in any casualties.

However, at 1930 today a military vehicle belonging to one of the secondary organizations [ihda at-tanzimat ath-thanawiyah], stationed in the northern side of the Furn ash-Shubbak traffic circle, suddenly opened cannon fire on the buildings in which the Arab Deterrent Forces took up positions following their recent deployment in Al-Ashrafiyah. The vehicle then opened heavy machinegun fire in the same direction and against the same targets. This forced the Arab Deterrent Forces to shell the vehicle and nearby weapons, which had also fired, until they silenced them.

Some scattered shooting can still be heard at the time this communique is being broadcast.

HEADQUARTERS OF PALESTINIAN GROUP IN BEIRUT BLOWN UP

JN130810Y Baghdad INA in Arabic 0750 GMT 13 Aug 78 JN

[Text] Beirut, 13 August--The official spokesman of the Palestinian Liberation Front has stated that the headquarters of the Military Command and the Central Operations of the front was blown up early this morning by hostile forces.

In a statement issued following the incident, the spokesman said that the building was completely destroyed and that scores of martyrs in the building and in adjacent buildings have fallen. He pointed out that the front's Central Committee has been meeting in the Operation Center in the building for 3 days. He said that the Central Committee adjourned its meetings at 2300 hours, just 1 hour before the criminal incident.

The Central Committee asserted that the perpetrators of this criminal act will not escape the punishment of the revolution and masses.

The area was blocked off and nobody was allowed to approach. Fire brigades, which have been trying to put out the fires since early this morning, have prevented the flames from spreading. Civilians have vacated the buildings in the neighborhood. The explosion led to a power outage in the area for a short time. Ambulances were transporting the wounded to hospitals at a late hour this morning.

First aid personnel in Beirut have not been able to determine the number of killed or wounded. Palestinian sources, however, estimate the wounded at 70 to 80 casualties. The wounded were taken to the American University, Al-Maqasid, Al-Barbir and Gaza hospitals.

Further on Explosion

JN130958Y Baghdad INA in Arabic 0940 GMT 13 Aug 78 JN

[Excerpt] Beirut, 13 August--Sources of the Palestinian Liberation Front have indicated that at least 80 martyrs fell as a result of the explosion which took place last night in a building in the Al-Fakihani area. In a press statement, the sources said some 40 fighters of the Palestinian Liberation Front, both outside and inside the building at the time of the explosion, have fallen. The sources pointed out that two families of 13 and 11 persons respectively were also dead under the debris. The sources added that what intensified the loss of life was the fire which broke out in a paint store near the building; the flames impeded the removal of casualties.

The sources denied reports about an arms depot under the building. They said that neither the front nor other organizations have such depots.

150 Feared Killed

JN130929Y Baghdad INA in Arabic 0915 GMT 13 Aug 78 JN

[Text] Beirut, 13 August--It is feared that over 150 persons have been killed under the debris of a building which collapsed following a violent explosion that shook the area of Al-Fakihani after midnight last night.

The INA Beirut correspondent, who visited the area this morning, has reported that heavy guards have cordoned off the area of the explosion. Eyewitnesses said that the residents of the adjacent buildings fled with their children in night clothes at the time of explosion.

The correspondent added that fire brigades were confused by the explosion. He said that the bodies of victims are being found among the stones under the debris. He said that the area's residents have pointed out that this explosion was directed basically against the Palestinian rejectionist forces, and it has been ascertained that a large number of the supporters of the Palestinian Liberation Front reside in this building.

It should be recalled that this explosion follows a similar explosion 2 weeks ago.

EXPLOSIVE CHARGES FOUND IN BEIRUT BUILDING

NC131210Y Voice of Lebanon [Clandestine] in Arabic to Lebanon 1115 GMT 13 Aug 78 NC

[Text] The security organs have discovered two big cases full of explosives. The cases were found in one of the buildings in the Ra's an-Nab' quarter, 50 meters from the statue of Shaykh Bishara al-Khuri. One of the Palestinian leaders who belongs to the rejection front lives in the building. The discovery of the two cases averted a new disaster. The explosives were defused a short time before they were due to go off.

WEAPONS, AMMUNITION TO BE MOVED FROM RESIDENTIAL AREAS

NC140750Y Voice of Lebanon [Clandestine] in Arabic to Lebanon 0715 GMT 14 Aug 78 NC

[Text] Palestinian sources have pointed out that a decision has been made to remove all types of heavy weapons and ammunition from buildings in residential areas.

BEIRUT CALM THROUGHOUT NIGHT OF 13 AUGUST

NC140609Y Voice of Lebanon [Clandestine] in Arabic to Lebanon 0515 GMT 14 Aug 78 NC

[Text] Calm prevailed throughout Beirut and its suburbs all night last night and this morning. The calm was marred only by a few shots and an explosion. The site of the explosion has not yet been located.

EFFORTS TO INSURE ARMY ADVANCEMENT IN SOUTH CONTINUE

NC131206Y Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1030 GMT 13 Aug 78 NC

[Text] At a time when the new political week will begin with a Lebanese-Syrian meeting, consultations are continuing at the Presidential Palace in preparation for the adoption of decisive decisions concerning pending matters, particularly the problem of the army's advancement in the south and the solution of the problem of the army being stopped in Kawkaba.

Diplomatic moves by Lebanon will continue at the beginning of the week to have the United States and the United Nations exert more effective pressure on Israel to keep it from obstructing the advancement of the Lebanese Army to Tibnin in implementation of UN Resolutions 425 and 426.

A meeting was held under General Erskine at the UNIFIL Command Headquarters in the south yesterday. It was announced after the meeting that the UNIFIL Command will continue its contacts to insure the advancement of the Lebanese regiment in Kawkaba, after eliminating the obstacles preventing its advancement.

UNIFIL sources have stated that despite the difficulties facing the current negotiations between the various forces to eliminate these obstacles, there is hope that progress will be achieved during the negotiations.

ISRAEL REPORTS UNIFIL SPOKESMAN IN SOUTH OUSTED

NC121232Y Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1200 GMT 12 Aug 78 NC

[Text] The UNIFIL spokesman in southern Lebanon, Keith Bevin, has been relieved of his post and returned to New York because of remarks he made this week against the Christian militia commander, Major Haddad, during a press conference in Metulla. Among other things, he said that he would be happy if Haddad were sent to the moon.

UNIFIL elements in the north came to Major Haddad this morning and informed him of Bevin's departure.

CLASHES REPORTED BETWEEN UN, PALESTINIAN FORCES

NC131647Y Voice of Lebanon [Clandestine] in Arabic to Lebanon 1615 GMT 13 Aug 78 NC

[Text] There were heavy clashes near Rashayya al-Fukhkhar in the south between the UN emergency forces and Palestinian armed men. The clashes lasted for 3 and 1/4 hours and stopped at 1715 today. Initial reports indicate that five Palestinians and two UN soldiers were wounded. Urgent contacts were held this evening to prevent further complications in the area.

ISRAELI GUNBOATS REPORTED NEAR SIDON 11 AUGUST

NC120739Y Voice of Lebanon [Clandestine] in Arabic to Lebanon 0715 GMT 12 Aug 78 NC

[Text] According to reports from Sidon, men of the Palestinian resistance have arrested 'Imad Hamadah and Mahmud al-Qays charging them with stirring up the recent incident in Sidon. The two men will be detained in the armed struggle prison for about 10 days.

It was also reported that Israeli gunboats yesterday entered Lebanese territorial waters near Sidon escorted by military aircraft which flew over the city before withdrawing with the gunboats.

JOINT COMMAND DENIES FACTIONAL CLASHES IN SIDON

JN111206Y Baghdad INA in Arabic 1155 GMT 11 Aug 78 JN

[Text] Beirut, 11 August--The joint command of the Palestinian resistance and the Lebanese Nationalist Movement has denied news agency reports that fighting has taken place among Palestinian factions in Sidon.

In a statement issued today, the joint command explained that no clashes took place in Sidon except for a dispute between two elements for personal reasons. The incident was immediately contained and the person who opened fire arrested.

ISRAEL: ABIE NATHAN CONTINUES ATTEMPTS IN LEBANON

NC130721Y Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0600 GMT 13 Aug 78 NC

[Excerpt] Peace navigator Abie Nathan says that his ship is remaining outside the port of Juniyah in northern Lebanon and that all of its crew are in good condition. He noted that he is still waiting for the Lebanese authorities to allow him to enter one of Lebanon's ports in order to unload the cargo of clothes, medicines and toys destined for the victims of the recent fighting.

DAMASCUS DAILY ON POSSIBILITY OF U.S. TROOPS IN MIDEAST

JN130754Y Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0430 GMT 13 Aug 78 JN

[Press review]

[Excerpts] Dealing with Zionist-U.S. intervention in Lebanon under the title "The U.S.-Israeli Fingers in the Lebanese Situation," the newspaper TISHRIN writes: When Israel occupied southern Lebanon, it justified this occupation by claiming that it wants to set up a security belt in the Lebanese hinterland to prevent the Palestinian resistance movement from carrying out operations through this area.

Israel's political objective in exploding the problem of the Lebanese situation in the south was to breach the existing armistice agreement and drag Lebanon into accepting the Israeli interpretation of Resolution No 242 at a future time.

It is obvious that Israel timed the involvement of Lebanon in its plans to accord with several factors, the most prominent of which is the contradictory Arab situation which resulted from As-Sadat's capitulationist initiative. Israel became convinced that it could gain legality over the territories it occupies after As-Sadat pledged not to resort to military means to regain the occupied land.

The second factor is the announced U.S. stand on Resolution No 242. Washington considers this resolution as the basis for any settlement, with two conditions; namely, making changes on the international borders which existed prior to 1967 and linking this to the establishment of an independent Palestinian state [dawlah].

Concluding its commentary, TISHRIN says: In the general context of this U.S.-Israeli plan, we can understand why Israel objects to the deployment of the Lebanese Army along the international border in accordance with the armistice agreement.

Dealing with the Carter-Begin-As-Sadat meeting in Camp David under the headline "As-Sadat in the Circle of Total Subservience," TISHRIN says: Reports indicate that the sending of U.S. forces to the Middle East will be one of the topics to be discussed at the Carter-Begin-As-Sadat meeting in Camp David.

The paper adds: As-Sadat's acquiscence in the deployment of U.S. forces in Egyptian territory adds another serious dimension to As-Sadat's capitulationist initiative; namely, linking the subservience of As-Sadat's regime to a U.S. military presence on Egyptian territory.

The Arabs have struggled long to liberate their land from foreign occupation, realize political independence and steer away from zones of foreign influence. They chose the principles of nonalinement to express their liberation from the influence of imperialism. Any importation of foreign forces with designs in the Arab homeland and biased in favor of Israel is considered an act hostile to the Arabs and is rejected and resisted.

The paper concludes: The Arabs' experience with the U.S. Sixth Fleet in the Mediterranean is a bad one. They remember this fleet's muscle-flexing against the Arabs and in support of Israel. They remember the U.S. airlift during the October War. Any idea of sending U.S. forces to the Middle East under any cover provokes and incites the Arabs.

PRESIDENT AL-ASAD RECEIVES PLO'S 'ARAFAT, OTHERS

JN111926Y Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1915 GMT 11 Aug 78 JN

[Text] Latakia--President Hafiz al-Asad received Yasir 'Arafat, chairman of the PLO Executive Committee, in the Presidential Palace in Latakia this evening. 'Arafat was accompanied by Faruq Qaddumi, chairman of the PLO Political Department, and by Salah Khalaf, and Muhammad Ghunaym, members of the Fatah movement's Central Council. The meeting was attended by 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, and Gen Hikmat ash-Shihabi.

More on Meeting

JN112138Y Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 2115 GMT 11 Aug 78 JN

[Excerpts] Latakia--President Hafiz al-Asad received Yasir 'Arafat, chairman of the PLO Executive Committee, this evening in the Presidential Palace.

The discussions dealt with the latest developments in the situation in the Arab area, particularly as pertains to the Palestinian issue. A review was made of the recent acts of aggression against the PLO offices and representatives by agents of the Iraqi regime. It was stressed that efforts should be doubled to strengthen the front of steadfastness against capitulationist moves which aim at liquidating the Palestinian issue.

PRESIDENT AL-ASAD RECEIVES PRINCE TURKI AL-FAYSAL

JN121412Y Damascus SANA in Arabic 1335 GMT 12 Aug 78 JN

[Text] At 1230 today President Hafiz al-Asad received Prince Turki al-Faysal, private envoy [of King Khalid of Saudi Arabia], who arrived from Saudi Arabia to convey a message to Al-Asad. During the meeting, developments in the Arab area were discussed.

FINNISH PARLIAMENTARY GROUP ARRIVES IN DAMASCUS

JN131323Y Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0415 GMT 13 Aug 78 JN

[Text] (?Johannes Virolainen), leader of a Finnish parliamentary group, arrived in Damascus last night on a 6-day visit to Syria at the invitation of the People's Assembly. He will hold talks with Syrian parliamentarians on the international parliamentary conference to be held in (?Koln) in September.

Meetings Begin

JN132015Y Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1515 GMT 13 Aug 78 JN

[Text] During his meeting with the Finnish parliamentary delegation, Mahmud Hadid, speaker of the People's Assembly, stressed that the forthcoming Camp David meeting is nothing but part of the conspiratorial plans against the Arab nation in general, and against the Palestinian Arab people in particular.

Hadid also explained Syria's firm and principled stand under President Hafiz al-Asad's leadership. He said that as long as displaced people, usurped rights and occupied territories exist, true peace will not be achieved.

The delegation also met with Khalid al-Fahum, speaker of the Palestine National Council. The two parties exchanged views on the latest developments in the Middle East situation, particularly in the Palestinian arena.

ALGERIA

ALGERIAN DELEGATION RETURNS FROM USSR, POLAND

LD111330Y Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic 1100 GMT 11 Aug 78 LD

[Summary] Rabih Bitat, president of the National People's Assembly, returned last night with the delegation accompanying him after official visits to Poland and the USSR lasting 18 days. The delegation had a series of talks and contacts with officials in both countries which "were aimed at the consolidation and widening of cooperation in all fields in the interests of the Algerian, Polish and Soviet peoples. The delegation familiarized itself with the achievements of the two countries.

LIBYA

JANA REPORTS COMMUNIQUE ESTABLISHING TIES WITH PRC

LD121640Y Tripoli JANA in English 0850 GMT 10 Aug 78 LD

[Text] Peking, August 10, JANA--At the end of Staff-Major Jallud's one week official visit to China, the following Sino-Libyan Arab joint communique was issued yesterday concerning the setting up of diplomatic relations between the Jamahiriyah and the People's Republic of China:

"In accordance with their (?people's) interests and wishes and following their friendly consultations, the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah and the People's Republic of China have decided to establish diplomatic relations at ambassadorial level.

"Both countries agreed to develop friendly relations and (?cooperation) between them based on the following five principles: mutual respect for sovereignty and unity of territories, abstention from aggression and from intervention [words indistinct] affairs, [words indistinct] mutual interests and co-existence.

"The People's Republic of China (?respects) the non-aligned policy adopted by the Jamahiriyah and expresses her appreciation of the (?Libyan Arab) people's achievement in the [words indistinct] (?struggle) in order to [words indistinct] their independence and to develop their country.

"The People's Republic of China supports the Libyan Arab people in their struggle against imperialism and Zionism."

Tripoli Comment

LD121904Y Tripoli Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 10 Aug 78 LD

[Unattributed commentary]

[Excerpts] Since the emergence of the Great 1 September Revolution, the world has been witnessing a basic transformation and a remarkable development in the field of international cooperation and relations between nations. Equality has become the distinguishing feature of relations among Third World countries, both those which achieved independence recently and others, and this includes big powers.

Through the proper concept of the nature of international relations and through leading initiatives, the Jamahiriyah has given positive proof of the positive aspect of this concept at a time when we and most of the nations of the world vitally needed a period to rebuild the internal structure and at a time when the entire world was trying to achieve stability, security and peace.

The Great 1 September Revolution set the course, and soon afterward it extended bridges of international cooperation to link the Jamahiriyah with the outside world on firm and principled foundations of mutual respect, equality and mutual benefit. These foundations have become a hymn of peace in international relations because they impose mutual obligations that function like a safety valve for the independence and freedom of nations.

The visit of Staff Major 'Abd as-Salam Ahmad Jallud to China was part of this revolutionary, progressive and harmonious orientation which adopted the basis of militant and modern history of the Arab nation and the friendly people of China as a platform from which to set out and restore this distinguished standing among nations.

The joint Libyan-Chinese communique which was issued at the end of the visit stressed the common desire of the two countries to polarize this trend and realize its aims in conformity with the aspirations of the Arab and Chinese people to establish relations of civilization, history and common struggle. At the beginning of the communique it was noted that the Jamahiriyah and the PRC decided, in accordance with the interests of the two peoples and the two countries' mutual desire, to establish political relations at the ambassadorial level. In harmony with the policy of the Great 1 September Revolution and its leading trend in international relations, the two friendly countries agreed to develop relations of friendship and cooperation on the basis of mutual respect, equality and joint benefit.

Friendly China today finds the line of the Jamahiriyah agreeable. It appreciates the honorable stands of the Jamahiriyah and the constructive policy of the Jamahiriyah. China was eager to stress this attitude by including it in the joint communique and thus it wanted to put on record for history that it respects the policy of nonalinement followed by the Jamahiriyah. The fact that a country like the PRC wishes to stress this aspect of the Jamahiriyah's foreign policy springs from the soundness and positive character of the path followed by the Great 1 September Revolution and the greatness of its line in regard to international relations. The inclusion of the Jamahiriyah on the map of international relations has become a common denominator between the Jamahiriyah and most fraternal and friendly countries, and foremost with the African countries, the Arab countries, the PRC and the Indian Subcontinent.

The decision of the Jamahiriyah and China to establish political relations is one of the first results of the visit of Staff Major 'Abd as-Salam Jallud to friendly China. The results of the visit include numerous positive aspects which will undoubtedly enrich these relations and give them effective impetus toward bilateral cooperation and joint militant stands. It is noteworthy here that friendly China was eager to place on record the attitude of its militant people toward the Arab-Zionist conflict by supporting the Libyan Arab people as a vanguard of the Arab nation in its struggle against colonialism and Zionism. The Chinese attitude is honorable and reflects the response of the friendly Chinese people to the call of the Great 1 September Revolution to adopt a contemporary and militant attitude toward the forces of good and progress.

Talk on Diplomatic Aims

LD121834Y Tripoli Voice of the Arab Homeland in Arabic 1715 GMT 11 Aug 78 LD

[Unattributed commentary: "Active Diplomacy"]

[Text] Active diplomacy of the kind practiced by the Jamahiriyah is constantly seeking new fields; it defines its aims and then sets out to achieve them with balance and strength.

In our modern age, diplomacy is the means and the language which people use to fulfill their hopes, ambitions and needs, and to facilitate the solving of difficulties. From this standpoint the observer of Libyan political and diplomatic activities will note that its activity has spanned the whole world with the exception of Southeast Asia. Now Jallud and his delegation are there, knocking on the door of the great China, and from there penetrating Southeast Asia, exploring that area, defining their purpose in going there and then acting in accordance with the development and needs of the Jamahiriyah.

Modern diplomacy is not and cannot be merely a matter of tourism, pleasure or even exploration. It is a dialog based on real motives and the needs of people. If this is true, the matter is not limited to political, trade or economic motives or reasons of development. A mixture of social values is involved. When the values of peoples are close and their problems and needs are similar, they find themselves driven toward getting together and cooperating. If it is true that the needs of one who is underdeveloped or developing are to be found at the door of one who is advanced or who has long been on the road to development, it does not follow that the balance need remain tipped in favor of the strong. Modern needs are complex, far-reaching and difficult. Thus one group of states cannot fulfill all needs or grant all requests. The family of nations today lives in two important paradoxes. The first is that countries inevitably come close together by virtue of world development, scientific revolutions and the intermingling of their futures and their interests. The other is that nations are still distant and hostile on the level of national needs. They live in a state of near isolation. Some believe that the future of civilization depends on the extent of rapprochement between nations and on their ability to find a solution to the existing paradoxes.

As far as the Jamahiriyah is concerned, there are several considerations which move it in its international relations. The first is Arab security and the future of the Arabs. Closely linked with that is the desire to achieve all-round and rapid development of Libyan society. The first aim necessitates confronting the enemies of the Arabs and all those who obstruct Arab destiny. The second aim leads to building bridges with any state or group of states capable of granting the requests of the Jamahiriyah in the field of development. The third aim is to play an active part in world events with a view to establishing peace and cooperation; to bring about solidarity among nations in order to preserve our civilization and to prevent all evils. Hence the importance of supporting liberation movements, particularly in Asia, Africa and South America.

What distinguishes Libyan diplomacy is that it is practical, direct and goes to the heart of a problem. It does not beat around the bush.

It is not hostile to any party on factional grounds. In deciding its attitude for or against anyone, it takes into consideration the mixture of values, interests and aims. It is this seriousness in establishing relations and building bridges, urging positive cooperation, and finding material and moral justification for involving others in joint action for peace that distinguishes our active diplomacy. It is the diplomacy of a big state, not a small one. Today, however, states do not suffer from being big or small; they are measured in terms of their effectiveness, activity, creativity and their presence in the spotlight of world events. The success of the Jamahiriyah in building bridges with all nations is directly attributable to the Jamahiriyah and it is also a gain for all the Arabs; it seeks to make new friends and consolidate old friendships.

Jallud Cables Thanks to Teng

LD121711Y Tripoli JANA in English 1531 GMT 12 Aug 78 LD

[Text] Peking, August 12, JANA--Staff Major Jallud sent the following telegram to Mr. Teng Hsiao-ping, the Chinese vice-premier, following his visit to China:

"Upon leaving your friendly country, I would like to extend my heartfelt thanks to you personally and to the people of the People's Republic of China, as well as my appreciation of the generosity and warm welcome given to me and my accompanying delegation during our stay in your friendly country.

This visit has reaffirmed the nature and depth of the relations among the Arab nation, the great Chinese people, and the Libyan Arab people which after the Great Al-Fatah 1st September Revolution has been playing a leading role in its nation's movement and is trying to make the most of the two people's common civilization in its relations with the Chinese people. The historical and civilizational relations which have brought us together over the centuries are the best means to assist us in conforming [to] the new role awaiting the Arab nation and the great Chinese people.

Fully aware of the greatness of the Chinese people since old times, the Arab people sailed overseas and oceans and crossed long distances to get in contact with your people and to establish together the strongest civilizational and trade relations. The existence of millions of Chinese Muslims nowadays is nothing but a proof of this spiritual relationship, and our present role having achieved freedom is the embodiment of this relationship and role. Both the Arab nation and the great Chinese people have suffered from colonialism and evil campaigns in the same way.

The great Chinese people has succeeded in taking its own destiny in its own hands and is now ready to establish its role in the world whereas the Arab nation is still continuing its struggle to assert itself and overcome its enemies. The Arab nation considers the great Chinese people as the best ally. I was assured of this during my negotiations with Mr. Hua Kuo-feng, chairman of the Chinese Communist Party and premier, and when you reaffirmed that the Arab nation's causes were also yours. The results we have reached have brought our relations to a new phase which expresses our people's joint aspirations to achieve better cooperation. Please accept my sincere greetings and respect.

Staff-Major 'Abd as-Salam Jallud.

JANA REPORTS ON OFFICIAL TALKS IN PYONGYANG

LD131134Y Tripoli JANA in English 0810 GMT 13 Aug 78 LD

[Text] Pyongyang, August 13, JANA--The Political Committee emerging from official talks which took place yesterday between the Libyan Arab and the Korean sides, held its first meeting in the guest house in the Korean capital.

The Libyan Arab side was headed by Dr. 'Ali 'Abd as-Salam at-Turayki, the foreign secretary. The Korean side was headed by the minister of foreign affairs of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea.

The meeting discussed ways and means of cementing and deepening relations between the two friendly countries. The two sides also discussed international questions of mutual concern.

The JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY correspondents accompanying Staff-Major Jallud have indicated that the technical committee emerging from the official talks has also held a meeting today in the People's Cultural Palace on the capital. It discussed the technical and economic relations between the two countries. The Libyan Arab side in this meeting was headed by Eng. Muhammad al-Manqush, housing secretary, while the Korean side was headed by the minister of economy in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea.

AL-QADHDHAFI RECEIVES MAURITANIAN OFFICIAL, SALECK MESSAGE

LD111328Y Tripoli JANA in English 0934 GMT 11 Aug 78 LD

[Text] Tripoli, August 11, (JANA)--Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, the secretary-general of the General People's Congress, yesterday received Ahmed Ould al-Qafi. At the meeting, Ould Al-Qafi delivered a message to Colonel al-Qadhdhafi from Colonel Ould Mohammed Saleck, head of the Military Committee for National Recovery in Mauritania.

MAURITANIA

MOUSTAPHA OULD SALECK INTERVIEWED ON COUP PREPARATIONS

LD111412Y Rabat Domestic Service in Arabic 1300 GMT 11 Aug 78 LD

[Text] Lt Col Moustapha Ould Mohamed Saleck, chairman of the Military Committee for National Recovery and head of the Mauritanian Government, stated that there is no intention to try former President Moktar Ould Daddah and that he is not opposed to his return to public life as an ordinary Mauritanian citizen loyal to his country.

In his first press statement published by the journal AL-WATAN AL-'ARABI about the coup which he led to topple the former president, Saleck said that preparations for the coup took a full month and were extended by 24 hours and that the plan was for a quick coup about which no Arab or international quarter knew before it occured. He described the coup as being purely Mauritanian and Islamic in character.

Asked about his political leaning, he said: I am a Moslem and it is difficult to categorize a Moslem as being centrist, leftist or rightist.

The Mauritanian leader expressed optimism about the possibility of reaching a solution to the so-called Sahara question through the mediation efforts of France and the Ivory Coast. He also praised the efforts of Saudi Arabia to resolve the conflict.

Concerning the presence of Moroccan forces in Mauritania, he said: This does not constitute any problem for us because the Moroccan forces came to Mauritania to help the Mauritanian people. They are prepared to return home after the Mauritanian forces are in a position to be able to protect the country and its sovereignty.

MOROCCO

MOROCCAN UNITS IN MAURITANIA TO WITHDRAW FROM AKJOUJI

LD121902Y Rabat MAP in Arabic 1530 GMT 12 Aug 78 LD

[Text] Nouakchott, 12 August--Informed sources in Mauritania have announced that the 600-man Moroccan unit stationed at Akjouji, 250 km from Nouackhott, will begin to withdraw northward.

The observers say this is the first important movement by the royalist forces since the 10 July military coup and the announcement by the so-called POLISARIO of a cease-fire with Mauritania.

The Mauritanian commanders feel that the Moroccan presence at Akjouji is no longer necessary because the copper mines, which employed 600 persons, including 50 Frenchmen, closed down on 31 May and because the area is no longer an economically important center that would make it a target of attack.

Some sources in Nouakchott say that the Moroccan forces entrusted with the task of protecting Zouirat will be further reinforced so that it will be possible to implement the (Clips) project, which will cost $460 million and will make it possible to exploit the new iron mines by 1981.

It was learned in Nouakchott yesterday that the Moroccan forces stationed at Akjouji will move to Zouirat. At present, there are about 2,500 Moroccan soldiers equipped with heavy arms about 400 km to the north of Zouirat, forming a security belt for it.

The Moroccan forces' movements were a topic of discussion during last week's meetings of the Higher Military Committee for Common Defense, led by Moustapha Ould Saleck and Lt Col Ahmad ad-Dulaymi. Talks continued on this high level until Wednesday.

Foreign information media waged a campaign of suspicion in the past few days about the Moroccan-Mauritanian military meetings. Some circles have fallen for these maneuvers, which sought to smear Moroccan-Mauritanian relations. Newspapers with imperialistic tendencies have been trying since the Mauritanian coup to create a particular psychological atmosphere so as to bring pressure to bear to achieve imperialist objectives. The papers have highlighted the rumors about the presence of the Moroccan forces in Akjouji for the last 3 days, claiming that the Mauritanians had asked for them to be withdrawn. But the truth of the matter is that these forces are being withdrawn to be used in reinforcing Zouirat.

SUDAN

NUMAYRI ORDERS FORMATION OF STATE SECURITY DEPARTMENT

JN121513Y Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1420 GMT 12 Aug 78 JN

[Text] Khartoum, 12 August--President Ja'far Numayri has issued a provisional order called the State Security Law of 1978. According to this law, the National Security Department and the Public Security Department are to be incorporated into a unified department called the State Security Department which will be entrusted with the task of insuring the country's internal and external security. The law abrogates the law on state security central departments of 1974 and maintains the National Security Council in its present form with the same authority in drawing up state security policy.

President Numayri has issued a decree appointing Maj Gen T.G.M. 'Umar Muhammad at-Tayyib chairman of the State Security Department with the rank of minister.

Sets Up OAU Department

LD121914Y Omdurman Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 12 Aug 78 LD/EA

[Summary] President Numayri has issued a decree establishing a department at the presidency linked to the OAU. The department will gather and analyze information about the course of events in Africa for the attention of President Numayri in his capacity as OAU chairman; follow up presidential directives concerning the gathering of information; maintain liaison with the OAU Secretariat; establish a clear working relationship with the OAU executive secretary general; brief the president on the work of the OAU Secretariat and its offices abroad; insure that the organization takes a leading role in international forums in which African states take part; carry out studies of achieving economic, cultural and technical cooperation among member states; and put forward ideas for African efforts for decolonization, fighting racial discrimination and confronting the threats facing Africa.

PRESIDENT STRESSES NEED FOR GOVERNMENT SPENDING CURBS

LD132052Y Omdurman Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 13 Aug 78 LD/EA

[Text] The esteemed Council of Ministers held its regular meeting at 1000 today, with the president of the republic, Ja'far Muhammad Numayri in the chair, at the headquarters of the council's General Secretariat.

At the beginning of the meeting the president of the republic touched on general issues relating to the performance of the executive authority, the implementation of the various decrees issued by his excellency on spending curbs and improvement of efficiency in addition to other issues affecting the life of the masses.

The president laid particular emphasis on the need to direct the ministries and the various agencies to exercise constraint in expenditures in all areas in implementation of the economic (?concentration) and financial reform. Every minister will exercise personal and direct supervision in order to make the economic (?concentration) program achieve the required results.

In the course of his discourse on (?constraints) on expenditures, his excellency referred to the travel by increasing numbers of delegations and directed that this should be confined to unavoidable, pressing needs. Delegations should comprise as few members as possible and more use should be made of the diplomatic missions abroad.

The president told the council he is determined to find ways to curb extravagance and increase revenue in conformity with the needs of the program of economic concentration and financial reform approved by our country's constitutional bodies within the executive and legislative organs.

The council then considered the items on its agenda and reviewed the memorandum submitted by the minister of public service and administrative reform on the long-term home and overseas training plan for personnel in the ministries and government institutions and departments over the next 4 years. After detailed discussions the council approved it for the current fiscal year. The ministry was called on to study the entire plan to insure the maximum utilization of home training facilities.

The president directed all the ministries concerned to cooperate with the Ministry of Public Service and Administrative Reform to provide it with information facilitating the drawing up of a comprehensive training program in conformity with the country's needs in relation to its economic and social leap forward.

The council then discussed the interior minister's memorandum on suspending the grant of exit visas for Saudi Arabia. The council approved it, ruling that the current system of travel documents should revert to the passport system.

The council also approved in principle the agreement on the second Danish loan, submitted by the planning minister. This loan totals 40 million Danish kroner, equivalent to 2.8 million Sudanese pounds and will be used to buy equipment for the Ministry of Construction and Public Works, the Civil Aviation Department and for other projects.

BRIEFS

ALGERIAN PIPELINE TO ITALY--Algiers, 8 August--The national company SONATRACH and the subsidiary of the ENI Group, Saipem, signed a contract on 26 July under which the Italian company will implement the construction of the natural gas pipeline which will link Algeria with Italy via Tunisia. The pipeline will extend on the Algerian side from Hassi Messaoud to Oued as-Safsaf on the Algerian-Tunisian border and will be used in transporting 12.4 billion cubic meters of natural gas for a period of 20 years. The pipeline will be 48 inches in diameter and 550 km long. Its eventual capacity will be 18 billion cubic meters annually. The National Iron and Steel Company will supply the pipes, and the contract will be paid for in hard currency. [Algiers APS in French 0600 GMT 8 Aug 78 LD]

NEW SETTLEMENTS TO BE ESTABLISHED IN JORDAN VALLEY

NC131113Y Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1000 GMT 13 Aug 78 NC

[Text] The Ministerial Committee for Settlements decided recently to strengthen the settlements in the Jordan Valley by establishing five footholds there. These will bolster the existing chain of settlements in the valley. Three settlements will be set up in the Jericho region and the other two in the north of the valley.

Our correspondent, Shim'on Schiffer, reports that 2 weeks ago the secretaries of the settlement movements were invited to meet the chairman of the Ministerial Committee for Settlements, Ari'el Sharon. He showed the settlement group's plan to them and asked them to quickly mobilize settlers for the new settlements. All the secretaries, with the exception of the Hakibbutz Ha'arzi secretary, responded to this request.

The secretary of the settlements movement, Arik Nahemkin, told our correspondent that his movement supports the establishment of the five settlements and that it will mobilize new settlers.

The secretary of Hakibbutz Hame'uhad, Ya'aqov Zur, said that this decision is in keeping with the settlement concept of the previous government. The secretary of the Hapo'el Hamizrahi settlement movement, Hayyim Nadivi, also said that his movement is mobilizing new settlers.

The Jerusalem belt of settlements, which belongs to the Zionist organization settlement group, has already determined the location of the areas which will serve for the establishment of the settlements in the Jordan Valley. This concerns thousands of dunams of government-owned land which have been found suitable for agricultural cultivation.

Our correspondent has learned that the decision concerning the settlements was intended to be kept secret. However, it was leaked not long ago. Because of this, Minister Sharon has suspended his contacts with the movements' secretaries.

A top-level source dealing with settlements in the territories said that the decision to strengthen the settlements in the Jordan Valley stems from the awareness that what can be carried out today will not be possible in a year.

OFFICIALS SAY GOVERNMENT MADE NO DECISION

NC131300Y Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1200 GMT 13 Aug 78 NC

[Excerpt] Our correspondent on party affairs, Sara Frankel, reports that neither the government plenum nor any other government forum has adopted any decision concerning the establishment of five settlements in the Jordan Valley. Our correspondent has learned that an attempt was made by the agriculture minister to have such a decision adopted at a certain government forum, but that this decision was not accepted for implementation.

The acting prime minister, Yiga'el Yadin, told our correspondent that he would have demanded that any decision on setting up new settlements be discussed in the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Security Committee. Since no such decision or proposal was conveyed for discussion by the committee, no such decision was made.

Our correspondent notes that a few weeks ago the military censorship office disqualified the report on the five footholds in the Jordan Valley, stating that the decision was adopted by the Ministerial Defense Committee.

Our correspondent, Shim'on Schiffer, says that the acting government attorney general, Me'ir Gabay, took part in the censorship decision. The censorship office also disqualified remarks made by MK Yossi Sarid which specifically mentioned the five settlements.

CABINET SECRETARY ADMITS GOVERNMENT APPROVED SETTLEMENTS

TA131759Y Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1705 GMT 13 Aug 78 TA

[From the Evening Newsreel]

[Excerpts] Minister Ari'el Sharon, chairman of the Ministerial Committee for Settlement Affairs, is to make a personal statement shortly on the decision to set up five footholds in the Jordan Valley. This statement is to be made in the light of strong denials from senior cabinet ministers that such a decision was made in any forum, but was a proposal from Minister Sharon which was rejected.

The information about the establishment of the footholds was learned by the Newsreel desk 3 weeks ago. However, the censor disqualified it, claiming that this matter had been discussed by the Ministerial Committee for Security Affairs. Today the censor approved making this story public.

A few minutes ago we received a cabinet statement about the establishment of the five footholds in the Jordan Valley. Here is our correspondent, Shim'on Schiffer.

[Schiffer-live] The cabinet secretary Arye Na'or, has just told me that at its meeting on 28 June this year the Ministerial Committee for Security Affairs decided on the establishment of five Nahal footholds in the Jordan Valley. The cabinet secretary added that the deputy prime minister appealed against this decision and asked that deliberations be conducted by the cabinet on this issue. The cabinet secretary refused to give any details.

Deputy Prime Minister Yadin told me a few minutes ago that he will submit the issue for discussion at next Sunday's cabinet meeting. Professor Yadin stressed that for the time being no foothold has been established.

It has been learned that Minister Ari'el Sharon demanded today that the prime minister's office issue a statement on the issue of the settlements in the Jordan Valley; otherwise he threatened to issue a personal statement. Well, the statement [by the prime minister's office] has been made.

Begin, Yadin Comment

TA140642Y Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 14 Aug 78 TA

[Text] Prime Minister Menahem Begin has told his deputy, Yiga'el Yadin that the decision on the five settlements in the Jordan Valley does not have to go to the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Security Committee under the coalition agreement. Begin said this is because the settlements would be paramilitary in nature.

Yadin said that if the government approves the settlements, he would refer the issue to the Knesset committee. Begin reportedly told cabinet minister Ari'el Sharon that the plan for the five settlements had been approved by the Ministerial defense committee and did not have to be brought before the whole government. This came in response to Sharon's question about whether he could go ahead and implement the plan. But Yadin plans to take the issue up before the full cabinet on Sunday. Yadin informed his party about the decisions.

He said he opposes new settlements during this period of negotiations even if the actual locations of the proposed settlements do not run counter to the DMC platform.

Yadin Interviewed on Settlements

TA140745Y Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0505 GMT 14 Aug 78 TA

[From the Morning Newsreel]

[Excerpts] The confirmation given to the decision of the Ministerial Committee for Defense Affairs regarding the five settlements gives rise to several questions for Deputy Prime Minister Yiga'el Yadin. As may well be remembered, Professor Yadin claimed on various occasions that if such a decision were to be made he would bring the issue up before the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Security Committee. Late last night we wanted to hear the deputy prime minister's first reaction on this issue. Our correspondent, Shim'on Schiffer, talked with him. [begin recording]

[Question] [picks up in midsentence] on every decision to set up settlements in the Jordan Valley. This answer was heard from you on a radio program. Several of your colleagues in the DMC and the Knesset also heard this from you. Yesterday the cabinet announced that the Ministerial Committee for Defense Affairs decided on 28 June to set up five settlements in the Jordan Valley. How is this possible?

[Answer] At the time the matter was still in the hands of the Ministerial Committee for Defense Affairs and as far as I was concerned, that was not an operational decision since any such decision--if somebody wishes to bring it to a cabinet meeting--is not an operational decision yet. Several weeks ago, when rumors were being spread that there had been a decision to implement settlements, I was questioned by a few DMC Knesset members. I could not tell them all the details but I told them the following: It is true that a decision was made by the committee. I appealed the decision, and the matter will have to be brought up for the cabinet's decision. As long as the cabinet did not discuss this matter, there was no decision to carry it out. As for what you said before, I never said that there was no cabinet decision. I said there was no cabinet decision to implement the decision on setting up the settlements. This is true; as long as the decision of the ministerial committee was a decision that I asked to be brought before the cabinet for dicussion and as long as the cabinet had not held a discussion, this means that there has been no operational decision. This was my interpretation all along when I spoke with people. I could not reveal all the technical details, of course. I still insist on this. The cabinet's announcement, as I have said, states that there was a decision and that I appealed it. The cabinet has not yet discussed this.

[Question] The cabinet has not yet discussed this issue 7 weeks after the Ministerial Committee for Defense Affairs decided to set up these five settlements. Last night you announced that the cabinet would discuss this on Sunday, as you requested. Why did you not ask for a discussion during these 7 weeks then?

[Answer] I repeat, I did not want to have these settlements established and therefore I objected. As long as it was understood that I appealed the decision and that the matter should be brought up before the cabinent [sentence incomplete]. Since the person who wanted the establishment of these settlements did not bring this matter up before the cabinet meeting, this means, as far as I am concerned, that there was no decision. In addition, since I do not want this to happen why should I, in particular, urge a discussion in the cabinet? On the contrary, yesterday, after Minister Sharon said that he wanted the decision, including the appeal, to be publicized, I at once announced of course--and this is what I also said to the prime minister--that if this is the way the agriculture minister interprets things, that although there was no discussion on the matter the very fact that there was a decision, then I will bring this up at the cabinet meeting on Sunday for discussion and decision. The prime minister said this was all right.

[Question] If the cabinet and the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Security Committee indeed make a decision to set up these settlements, could this bring about a government crisis, in your opinion?

[Answer] This is a hypothetical question. The coalition agreement says that if I demand this, the matter under discussion should go before the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Security Committee. The moment the Knesset committee makes a favorable decision, this is a Knesset decision, not a governmental one. I hope that they will consider the matter very thoroughly under the circumstances. If, on the contrary, the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Security Committee decides that the settlements should not be set up, then in fact the cabinet's decision--if indeed it is made on Sunday and is in favor of the settlements--does not exist. However, this is the kind of question about which it is said: let us cross the bridge when we come to it. These are the facts at the moment: There was a decision by the ministerial committee at the time. I objected to it and demanded that the issue be transferred to the cabinet. This, therefore, means that there will be no operational decision until the matter is brought up before the cabinet by the person who wants these settlements. This was not brought to the cabinet and as far as I was concerned I had no interest in bringing up for a cabinet decision something to which I objected. This is the way I have viewed this up to now. There was no operational cabinet decision. This is the truth as I see it, and what is important for the world now is that no settlement has been established. [end recording]

TOLEDANO: YADIN DID NOT TELL DMC OF SETTLEMENT DECISION

TA140809Y Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0600 GMT 14 Aug 78 TA

[Text] MK Shemu'el Toledano says that the deputy prime minister did not disclose to his DMC colleagues the decision made by the Ministerial Committee for Defense Affairs. According to MK Toledano, Professor Yadin replied with a clear-cut "no" when he was asked whether the ministerial committee had decided on the establishment of settlements in the Jordan Valley. Yiga'el Yadin had earlier said that he reported to his colleagues in the DMC about the decision, emphasizing that it is not operational.

SHARON INTERVIEWED ON SETTLEMENT IN JUDAEA, SAMARIA

TA111703Y Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1505 GMT 11 Aug 78 TA

[From the Weekly Newsreel]

[Excerpts] This week, the chairman of the Ministerial Committee for Settlement Affairs, Minister Ari'el Sharon, announced that the skeleton framework of Jewish settlement in Judaea and Samaria has been completed. During a tour of new settlements he conducted for correspondents, Minister Sharon said that in the near future he will submit proposals to the government to enlarge the existing settlements by several hundred families. Large-scale groundwork is being carried out these days in the settlements being built in Judaea and Samaria. The goal is to have 2,500 more people come to live in the area by the beginning of next year.

Minister Sharon defines the settlement policy being carried out in Judaea and Samaria as the Sharon Plan, in contrast with another plan with which we are familiar--the Allon Plan. The basis of this plan, as Ari'el Sharon says, is security considerations and it is intended to give the Jewish population on the coastal plain a security and demographic hinterland.

Our correspondent, Shim'on Schiffer, toured the new settlements in Judaea and Samaria with Minister Sharon and his report includes an analysis of the underlying rationale for the Judaea and Samaria plan as well as the motives behind the cabinet decision to quickly flesh out the settlements in the Rafah Approaches on the eve of the beginning of the detailed negotiations with Egypt which were to have begun at the beginning of the year. [begin recording]

[Schiffer] This week, when it seemed for a moment as if the negotiations between Egypt and Israel had reached a dead end, the question was raised again whether the activities that were carried out in Yamit district aimed at fleshing out the Israeli settlements there violated the mutual trust between the parties.

[Sharon] I think there is no room for this argument, nor was there room for it at the time. I think that perhaps the best thing is that today the Egyptians have no claims on our part with respect to Sinai, concerning which there is no possibility of reaching an arrangement. The Egyptians no longer raise the issue. The fact is that no settlements have been either established or fleshed out in the Sinai for many months. All the demands from Israel are on a different plane altogether, and as was clear to the cabinet at the time--and is still clear today, just as it is clear to me personally--that it is not the settlements or the increased areas under cultivation--which were a prime security necessity in order to support the existing isolated settlements in the Rafah Approaches--it is not there things which constituted the stumbling block on the path of the negotiating process.

[Schiffer] It is interesting to note something which has so far not been publicized on this matter: the [Agriculture Ministry] Settlement Branch had been asked to lay water pipes in fields that were to be fenced out and sown, according to the plan. Egyptian War Minister al-Jamasi was to have been invited to fly by helicopter over Yamit District, where he would have been shown the dense settlement in the district, after the seeds had sprouted. [end recording]

'PEACE NOW' ERECTS PROTEST STATUE AT SHILO

TA111619Y Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1600 GMT 11 Aug 78 TA

[Text] Several thousand members of the Peace Now Movement convened at the settlement camp at Shilo in Samaria this afternoon to protest the continuation of settlement in Judaea and Samaria during the peace negotiations. The members of the movement erected a huge statue by Yigal Tumarkin on a concrete foundation which had been prepared a few days ago. The statue represents a dovecote.

STRONG EXPLOSION REPORTED IN JERUSALEM 12 AUGUST

NC120930Y Domestic Service in Hebrew 0900 GMT 12 Aug 78 NC

[Text] A violent explosion took place this morning at the observation point near the Intercontinental Hotel on Hazetim mountain in Jerusalem. Fortunately, there were no people around and no one was hurt. Our correspondent, Shemu'el Tal, reports that the explosion occurred about 40 minutes ago.

It appears that a relatively large explosive charge was planted near the protective wall of the observation point. As a result of the blast, stones were blown away from the protective wall and a large hole was created in the sidewalk.

Our correspondent reports that police and border guards were rushed to the scene of the incident. They arrested a number of people, including two suspects who were seen running from the observation point to the cemetary situated on the mountain slope.

The police are continuing to comb the area as well as other tourist gathering points near hotels and scenic spots.

Another Explosive Charge Discovered

NC121233Y Israel Domestic Service in Hebrew 1200 GMT 12 Aug 78 NC

[Excerpt] About 1 hour ago, another explosive charge was discovered in Jerusalem. It was exploded, and no one was hurt, no damages were incurred. This charge was discovered near the Jaffa Gate. A police bomb squad arrived at the site, evacuated the area and exploded the charge.

Charge Explodes 14 August

TA140658Y Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0500 GMT 14 Aug 78 TA

[Text] An explosive charge exploded about an hour ago at a pickup station for soldiers on Derekh Hebron in the Talpiyot area of Jerusalem. The police reported that there were no casualties and no damage was caused.

Yesterday the police called on the public to exercise vigilance in the wake of reports that the terrorist organizations intend to increase activity in Israel. The police turned especially to young people, asking them to pay attention to suspicious, innocent-looking objects that may prove to be booby-trapped and destructive. The police told the public to avoid touching a suspicious object and to call the police immediately.

HA'AREZ ON COMPOSITION OF CAMP DAVID DELEGATION

TA111047Y Tel Aviv HA'AREZ in Hebrew 11 Aug 78 p 1 TA

[By HA'AREZ political correspondent]

[Text] The composition of the Israeli delegation to the Camp David summit is likely to precipitate a debate in the cabinet.

If the prime minister insists on including his deputy, Prof Yiga'el Yadin, in the delegation (in addition to the foreign minister and the defense minister), MAFDAL is likely to demand representation as well. Senior DMC sources said last night they regarded the inclusion of Yadin in the delegation to the summit as essential, because situations may be created at the summit which would demand crucial decisions between flexible and even more flexible positions.

In their view, Yadin's presence in the delegation will insure that the moderate line in the cabinet is represented. Cabinet sources estimated last night that the inclusion of Yadin might raise a similar demand on the part of MAFDAL.

Before the trip, the cabinet will hold a special discussion in which, among other things, the composition of the delegation will be decided.

DMC Discusses Yadin's Inclusion

TA111206Y Tel Aviv HA'AREZ in Hebrew 11 Aug 78 p 1 TA

[By Amnon Barzilay]

[Excerpt] Senior personages in the DMC view the inclusion of the DMC head, Deputy Prime Minister Yiga'el Yadin, in Prime Minister Menahem Begin's trip to Camp David as a "consolation prize" and an attempt on Begin's part to raise Professor Yadin's prestige in his movement, thereby weakening the growing camp in the DMC which is demanding withdrawal from the government.

Harsh criticism about paralyzing the DMC institutions and attempts to "buy" delegates that were initially elected to the council was leveled yesterday by various circles in the movement.

The assessment that Yadin's inclusion in the U.S. trip was for internal political reasons is based on two things, according to DMC circles: First, the fear on the part of government personages that Professor Yadin will have a hard struggle trying to convince his party to remain in the government and that his chances for this are not good; second, the fear that the DMC will withdraw from the government before the trip to the United States, thus weakening and marring Begin's status and especially his efforts to present himself as the representative of the absolute majority of the Israeli public.

These assessments are reinforced in the DMC by comparing the Israeli delegation headed by Begin which went to Ismailia at the end of December 1977. There he was accompanied only by the foreign and defense ministers. Before that trip MK Asaf Yaquri demanded that Yadin be included, but Yadin himself reacted at the time by saying that if Begin, Dayan and Weizman are abroad he must remain in Israel.

Yadin Interviewed on Summit

TA111139Y Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew 11 Aug 78 p 24 TA

[Interview with Prof Yiga'el Yadin, deputy prime minister and currently acting prime minister, by Dov Goldstein, at a very early morning hour at the deputy prime minister's house--date not given]

[Excerpt] [Question] Did Israel promise U.S. Secretary of State Cyrus Vance further concessions, by which the Egyptian president was convinced to consent to President Carter's invitation?

[Answer] Absolutely not. No further concessions on the part of Israel were promised. All talks with Vance, in fact, discussed and analyzed the reasons for the cessation of the talks and what we think is possible and necessary to do in order to have them resumed. In this framework there was talk of improving the atmosphere between Egypt and Israel and the leaders of the two countries. No preconditions for the resumption of the talks were raised, and Israel was not required or asked to agree to any precondition or to comply with demands for concessions in order to pave the way for resumption of the negotiations. We were asked by Vance to clarify the meaning of the foreign minister's statement at the Knesset after his return from the talks in Leeds. We made it clear that we view this declaration as a clear and important statement that may pave the way for the continuation of the negotiations. We got the impression that Vance also viewed the declaration in this way. We were not, however, asked to change positions in preparation for the meeting at Camp David.

[Question] Did the prime minister consult you or any other cabinet member before he informed Vance that he would go to the tripartite meeting in the United States?

[Answer] No. The prime minister did not consult a soul. Vance held a tete-a-tete talk with the prime minister before he met with the ministerial team and reported on President Carter's message, which included the invitation to the Camp David talks. The prime minister immediately announced his consent and explained afterward--and rightly--that he did not doubt that in doing so he expressed the full agreement of all the cabinet members.

[Question] Had the government discussed the possibility of such an invitation on the part of the U.S. President before Vance arrived in Israel and with the invitation to the prime minister?

[Answer] In our internal discussions and also in the talks with the Americans, we have raised various ideas and possibilities as to how it is possible to renew the direct negotiations with Egypt at the highest possible level. Among other things, we thought about the possibility of an invitation on the part of the U.S. President without going into detail.

[Question] What are Israel's expectations from this meeting with Presidents Carter and As-Sadat at Camp David?

[Answer] Israel expects--and this is also the declared intention of the United States--that the direct negotiations between Egypt and itself will be resumed. This is the chief objective. The most important part at Camp David will be the meetings between the prime minister and the Egyptian president. The excellent personal relations prevailing between the two when President as-Sadat came to Jerusalem and also in their later contacts were muddled afterward because of various factors.

Now the Egyptian president has declared--and it is unnecessary to remark that this is also the prime minister's firm desire--that a new leaf should be turned in the relations between the two leaders. These relations have primary importance in the process of the peace negotiations.

If in this tripartite meeting the relations between Begin and As-Sadat improve and ways of continuing the negotiations between Egypt and Israel are determined, this in itself will constitute a great achievement. This is Israel's expectation. If substantive agreements on some of the peace subjects are also achieved, the meeting will really have been very successful.

[Question] When As-Sadat uses the term "full partnership with the United States" and presents it as an Egyptian demand, his intention is that the United States will submit a peace plan and will impose it on Israel. Is Israel sure that President Carter will not submit a U.S. peace plan at Camp David that will be closer to the Egyptian plan than to the Israeli plan?

[Answer] I have no doubt that the United States will not submit a U.S. peace plan at Camp David or any other place in the foreseeable future. Any U.S. plan that is in total opposition to the vital interests of one of the parties to the negotiations is destined to total failure, and it is to be doubted whether the United States would want to find itself in a situation where it submitted a peace plan and one or both of the parties objected to it firmly and rejected it.

[Question] And what if even the meeting at Camp David does not bridge the gaps between the Egyptian and Israeli positions? Would President Carter say: "Well, I have tried. If you can't reach an agreement, then don't?"

[Answer] Nothing I have said means that the U.S. administration does not have its own concept of peace and its limits. This concept finds expression from time to time, and part of what we have heard from authorized representatives of the U.S. administration has not pleased us at all and most certainly is unacceptable to Israel. However, after having examined all the moves in the last few weeks, I can definitely reiterate my statement that the U.S. role is to create the conditions--including the physical conditions--for the continuation of the negotiations. As a mediator, the United States may from time to time submit proposals to each party separately, or to both at the same time, in order to try to bring their positions closer.

As for the expression "full partnership," to a large extent this is a matter of interpretation. One can say that only in a few cases in the history of U.S. policy--except for matters in which it was itself involved in war and as such negotiated for an arrangement, as in the case of the Vietnam war--has the United States played such an active role in an attempt to contribute toward attaining peace between other countries. Anyone who wants to call this intervention "full partnership" will find the definition of mediation sufficient.

[Question] At the time, Dr Kissinger, too, claimed to have played the role of "a neutral mediator," but that did not prevent him from forcing the U.S. view on us in the guise of an impartial mediator....

[Answer] One must nevertheless distinguish between the methods used by Dr Kissinger and the process which we are now witnessing. Kissinger was much more active in submitting his own proposals. This approach was necessary, of course, as a result of the background and the circumstances of the Kissinger missions--at the height of the Yom Kippur War and after it. Israel has welcomed and continues to welcome U.S. involvement aimed at trying to help the two parties achieve rapprochement and peace. One should remember that with all the differences, the United States is a great and loyal friend of Israel.

[Question] Did Israel condition its consent to participate in the Camp David talks upon a U.S. commitment that no U.S. peace plan be submitted--or at least that no such plan would be submitted as long as it was not presented to Israel prior to its being submitted to President as-Sadat and to the prime minister during their meeting with President Carter?

[Answer] Israel has not set any conditions of any kind. The prime minister accepted the invitation on the spot without reservations and without any prior conditions. From various reports I have learned that President as-Sadat acted in the same way--he accepted it without conditions. This agreement without conditions is one of the most important aspects in the process of renewing the negotiations. I am convinced that the United States will not submit its own peace plan. Moreover, even if the United States wants to submit various ideas so as to bridge gaps, it will do so around the joint negotiating table and only after it has previously passed the ideas on to both of the parties separately and its representatives have heard the two parties' opinion and views.

[Question] And this, you say with an air of conviction, despite the fact that lately there have been definite signs that the United States is coordinating its policy with Egypt and not with Israel, as it was wont to do? Did the government not notice these symptoms?

[Answer] I shall answer with complete frankness: If it has happened in the past that the United States coordinated its positions with Egypt and not with Israel--and not necessarily during the period of the present cabinet--I can tell you that in the last few weeks the United States has refrained from taking any initiative or move or making proposals without sincerely consulting with Israel. I cannot conceive that the United States would deviate from this custom and surprise Israel at Camp David with proposals that had not been previously discussed with Israel.

[Question] There has been talk in Israel in the last 2 days about the great risk Carter has taken upon himself in inviting Begin and As-Sadat and about the serious dangers that can be expected if the "summit" fails. How do you view the dangers?

[Answer] Immediately after it became known that the summit would take place, people in Israel and in the United States bagan voicing prophesies of doom about the big risk President Carter had taken upon himself. Someone said that "this was the last chance"--and probably meant that a failure in the tripartite meeting immediately would lead to war in the Middle East. Every such daring act, like a military operation, always involves a risk. But I suggest that we ignore it. We must be prepared for every opportunity, and I can say that the cabinet is preparing for various possibilities. It is always like this: there are those who emphasize the element of risk because they honestly fear that a certain move might involve more risks than chances, while there are others who make it a point to guarantee themselves with "a personal insurance"--that is, if the move fails or bears negative results, they can claim "we told you!" and if the move succeeds no one will remember their warnings.

Not for one moment do I fear that the Camp David summit is the last move in the negotiating process. Neither party participating in the meeting can afford to reach a situation in which the possibility of continuing the negotiating process is closed off. Crises have taken place in the past. They may also occur in the future. Crises are an integral part of the negotiating process. One would prefer it to be without them, but the fact that they happen should not discourage us.

[Question] And do you not fear that the failure of the "summit" may lead to another war?

[Answer] I cannot say that such a risk does not exist. Certainly it exists. The higher the level of the summit, the greater the risk of deterioration involved in its failure. And one should take this into account. However, I have no doubt that the chance inherent in such a meeting in the United States is at least worth the risk, if not more than that. In order to prevent such a dangerous deterioration, the parties must thoroughly prepare for the meeting. The Government of Israel will spend a lot of time on the summit, in thinking, planning and examining each of the possible moves and I suppose this is what the other participants in the meeting will do as well.

Rabin Views

NC121400Y Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 1200 GMT 12 Aug 78 NC

[12 August interview granted to Shim'on Ayalon by former Prime Minister Yizhaq Rabin on upcoming tripartite summit at Camp David--recorded]

[Text] [Rabin] Well, first, I wish that there will be a breakthrough. I believe it is needed by the Egyptians, by the Israelis, by the other Arab countries and by the whole world. I hope that something will be worked out there, and if not, at least that it will pave the road for the continuation of the direct talks between Egypt and Israel. If there will be no possibility to achieve a peace treaty between Egypt and Israel, I think that we should explore the possibility of reaching a limited agreement, and I think President as-Sadat signalled, in a way, when he mentioned Santa Catarina and Al-'Arish for different purposes as gestures, as a new direction, or possible direction, for working out something separately between Egypt and Israel.

[Question] What do you believe will happen in Camp David if there are no changes in the current Israeli position?

[Answer] I believe that for the success of the meeting there, there is a need for a change in positions--not only on the part of Israel alone. I believe that the three sides have to change positions vis-a-vis to what were and are held by them. I believe that Israel has to adjust itself to the full acceptance of Resolution 242 in the way that former governments of Israel accepted it--that is to say, to apply the principle of withdrawal as it is formulated in Resolution 242 also to the West Bank and to the Gaza Strip. I believe that Egypt has to change its position and not to ask for total withdrawal at the present, to ask for Israel to commit itself to such a position. I believe that the United States, to offer in the real sense its good offices, has to detach itself from specific peace plans the way that the United States presented in 1977.

If these three changes will take place, there is a hope that a way will be found to bring about peace between Egypt and Israel, and a transitional period of 5 years that, at the end of it, a permanent solution will be found for peace east of Israel. I don't believe that it will be advisable at the present to seek permanent solutions to the problems of the West Bank, the Gaza Strip, to the solution of the Palestinian problem and peace with Jordan. Here we have to have a transitional period to agree about the principles according to which the solution will be found 5 years after the agreement will be reached, and then we'll experience, on one hand, peace in the real sense with Egypt and only after that, to reach a permanent solution eastward of Israel.

[Question] Do you believe that the Americans are going to come up with their own formula in Camp David?

[Answer] I am afraid that the temptation to make sure that the meeting will be successful might bring the United States to come not with a plan, because this name calls for a rejection from many quarters, but they'll come with ideas. You know, take five ideas and put them together and you've got a plan. I hope that it will not be done, but I am not sure that this is what will happen.

[Question] President as-Sadat said a couple of weeks ago that he would not have direct talks with Israel any more until Israel fulfilled certain preconditions, including withdrawal to the 1967 borders. Yet, just as the reports of his words were really being published, he did an about-turn and agreed to meet with Mr Begin and Mr Carter in Washington. Why do you think he did this?

[Answer] I believe that Egypt is really interested in the continuation of the political process in the negotiations. I think it was a mistake on the part of President as-Sadat to come with such threats that he would not meet the prime minister of Israel as long as his conditions would not be accepted as a precondition for the continuation of the negotiations, and it is better that he changed his mind because he realized that otherwise the initiative that he started by his visit to Jerusalem would come to an end. I am sure that 95 percent of all the Israelis would support, and will support, a government position not accepting preconditions, especially on vital issues: Where shall be the boundaries, what should be the solution of the key issues that have to be solved with the purpose to achieve peace.

Arens, Peres Comment

TA132015Y Jerusalem Domestic Television Service in Hebrew 1900 GMT 13 Aug 78 TA

[Interview with Knesset Foreign Affairs and Security Committee Chairman MK Moshe Arens and Labor Party Chairman MK Shim'on Peres by political correspondent Dan Raviv in the studio on 13 August--videotaped]

[Excerpt] [Raviv] What, in your opinion, are the red lines which the Israeli delegation to the Camp David summit cannot cross?

[Arens] The red lines are determined by our security needs--in the Sinai, in the south, there are many who think that our proposal has already crossed the red line.

At any rate, we have proposed that 96 percent of the Sinai be returned to Egyptian control. As for Judaea and Samaria, which is a very small territory--sometimes we tend to forget this--the red line is IDF control over all of Judaea and Samaria. We cannot concede on this. As soon as we concede this we concede our ability to defend ourselves, and this means that we would be forfeiting the stability of any agreement that we might reach.

[Raviv] In your opinion, should Israel concede and withdraw from the basic positions acceptable to it today?

[Peres] The Herut Party, yes; the Labor Party, no; the DMC, no; the Liberals, no; even the MAFDAL, no. The only one which should concede concerning its positions--as a party--is the Herut Party.

[Raviv] Mr Arens, since part of the facts are known--especially with regard to Israel's expected position--what, in your opinion, are the summit's chances of success?

[Arens] Everything depends on As-Sadat. His ability to maneuver is great, in my opinion. I think that if he wants to he can sign an agreement in accordance with the Israeli peace proposal.

[Peres] I would very much like to believe that something will come out of this, because if nothing comes out of it then we are all put in a very difficult position. Israel will be isolated, As-Sadat--it is not my job to look out for him--will have to draw conclusions, the United States will seek a guilty party and we will again wake up in a Middle East full of tension, enmity and hostility. The military coalitions will begin to act again. I do not expect an immediate change in the situation, but a gradual development which will take us back to the situation that existed 5 or 6 years ago.

PERES: ALINEMENT NOT CONSULTED ON PREPARATIONS FOR MEETING

TA131356Y Tel Aviv DAVAR in Hebrew 13 Aug 78 p 2 TA

[By A. Kinarti]

[Text] The head of the Labor Party, MK Shim'on Peres, has said that the major Knesset opposition, the Alinement, "is not in the picture" concerning the Camp David talks and that to date it has not been given information about the discussions by the government, its position and the preparations of the Israeli delegation for the meeting.

MK Peres told a DAVAR correspondent yesterday that contrary to the prime minister's promises in the past, the opposition has not been told a thing about the future moves of the government concerning the tripartite meeting in the United States, despite the fact that the communications media report that the prime minister will carry new proposals to the meeting. Peres mentioned that the prime minister, upon the establishment of his government, promised to give the opposition leader up-to-date and continuing information. Peres mentioned that prior to his departure for Vienna he had reported to the prime minister on the Labor Party's positions and on the subjects he might raise in the talks.

The Knesset Foreign Affairs and Security Committee will be convened the day after tomorrow and the prime minister and foreign minister are scheduled to appear before it and apparently discuss the Camp David meeting. However, since the prime minister is on vacation it is not clear whether he will in fact turn up at the committee meeting, and Peres fears that the committee members will not receive sufficient information from the foreign minister.

Peres does not exclude the possibility that the Alinement faction will demand that the Knesset convene for a special session in order to hold a political debate prior to the Camp David meeting. He said: "We will decide about this after the meeting of the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Security Committee."

A political debate on the tripartite meeting will be held by the Labor Party Bureau convening today. MK Peres will open the discussion. The Bureau will also discuss the inclusion in the party center of 44 new members from the Israeli academic community.

JERUSALEM AL-QUDS URGES ARAB SUMMIT BEFORE CAMP DAVID

JN120855Y Jerusalem AL-QUDS in Arabic 9 Aug 78 p 1 JN

[Editorial: "What Next After the Camp David Summit?"]

[Text] The U.S. administration has succeeded in averting a confrontation with Israel by refraining from submitting the anticipated middle-of-the-road plan. Meanwhile, the U.S. administration has also been able to save Egypt's face by U.S. President Carter's invitation to Egyptian President Anwar as-Sadat and Israeli Prime Minister Menahem Begin to meet with him at Camp David on 5 September 1978. By this invitation, the U.S. President was able to find a way to circumvent President as-Sadat's pledge not to engage in direct negotiations with Israel until it abandons its regional claims.

It seems that the Egyptian side is satisfied with this result on the grounds that it will strengthen President as-Sadat's position at home and in the Arab world and convince his adversaries that the United States has not turned its back on him but is doing its best to bring the Egyptian and Israel views closer through a tripartite summit meeting, in which President Carter will play the double role of mediator and witness [shahid].

Will President Carter be able to discover on the spot the great difference in the mentality of his two guests? Will he able to influence Begin at this meeting, which will attract the world's attention and increase hope that peace is close? Will someone hint to President Carter that the alternative to the failure of this meeting is a catastrophe? Failure would also weaken Israel's position within the United States and Begin's position within the Likud, and consequently bring into question the Likud's position of power.

The Arabs must not pin great hopes on the Camp David summit because the developments that preceded it are not a good sign that there will be rapid progress toward peace in the area. The Arabs should prepare an alternate plan for the anticipated failure of this meeting, for it will not be the end of the peace endeavors if Carter and Begin become convinced that the Arabs can influence developments. This should be done by taking the initiative to convene an Arab summit conference before the end of this month, during which full conciliation would take place and the division of the Arabs into moderates and hardliners should be abrobated. Also, the division of the Arabs into those who accept and those who reject and into traitors and patriots should be abrogated.

Meanwhile, the Arab leaders in this summit should authorize the Egyptian president to speak on behalf of all the Arabs. This would strengthen As-Sadat's position in his meeting with Carter and Begin. And by this, the Arab leaders would deny Israel the opportunity of procrastination and evading the issue of giving back the West Bank and the Gaza Strip to Jordan and Egypt, in preparation for providing the Palestinians residing there with the opportunity of self-determination.

Will President Carter be able to dictate to As-Sadat and Begin because the former broke most of his ties with the Soviet Union, played the American card, and received U.S. financial and military aid for Egypt--thus putting himself in a position in which he cannot turn his back on the United States and return to the Soviet Union--and because the latter is eager to have U.S. financial and military aid continue to flow? This is a question which will be answered by subsequent developments, as observers go from optimism to pessimism at the same speed at which the events are taking place.

UNIFIL IN S. LEBANON NEGOTIATING WITH TERRORISTS

TA121934Y Jerusalem Domestic Television Service in Hebrew 1830 GMT 12 Aug 78 TA

[Text] Negotiations have been going on since this afternoon in Kawkaba in southern Lebanon between commanders of the terrorist organizations and UN officers against the background of tension that arose in the region today.

Our military correspondent, 'Ammiram Nir, reports that two terrorists squads comprised of scores of people appeared in uniform and armed in the region between Rashayya al-Fukhkhar and Kawkaba. The terrorists demanded of the UN representatives at the barriers that they be allowed free movement, contrary to the agreement that the terrorists are permitted to move only when in civilian clothes. The Norwegian and Nepalese units in the region were immediately put on high alert. At this moment negotiations are continuing with the aim of finding a solution to the problem.

As for the Lebanese expeditionary battalion encamped near Kawkaba, there has been no change in the situation.

WORSHIPPERS VOICE INTENTION TO PRAY ON TEMPLE MOUNT

NC130620Y Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 13 Aug 78 NC

[Excerpt] Today is the feast of (Tish'ah Be'av), the anniversary of the destruction of the first and second temples. A group of Jews, headed by Jerusalem City Councilman Gershon Solomon, say they intend to pray on the Temple Mount in spite of police opposition. However, the Committee for the Sanctity of Israel has said that hundreds of religious Jews will block the way to the Temple Mount with their bodies to prevent prayer in the area, because they believe this will be a description of the Temple Mount. Sephardi Chief Rabbi Ovadia Yosef has issued a solemn warning forbidding Orthodox Jews to pray on the Temple Mount.

Stopped by Police

NC130922Y Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0900 GMT 13 Aug 78 NC

[Text] A group of 30 members who were carrying posters this morning attempted to ascend to the Temple Mount in Jerusalem in order to recite lamentations. They were stopped by the police. Therefore, they sat and prayed in front of the Mograbi Gate.

CURFEW IMPOSED ON ESFAHAN IN WAKE OF RIOTS

TA111538Y Paris AFP in English 1530 GMT 11 Aug 78 TA

[Text] Tehran, Aug 11 (AFP)--A curfew was announced today in Iran's historical capital of Esfahan following rioting during the last 3 days and last night, informed sources said. On Wednesday, 500 demonstrators attacked and partially ransacked the city's palatial Shah Abbas Hotel, which was full of tourists. Early reports reaching here indicated that the demonstrators were city workers acting out of religious fervour.

Esfahan, with 700,000 inhabitants, is 400 km (250 miles) south of Tehran. The curfew will be from 8 pm local to 7 am local. It was not known how many days the curfew would last. Nor did reports reaching here say whether anyone had been killed in the Esfahan riots.

It was also reported that 3 days of smaller scale rioting ended in Tehran today. There have also been politically-inspired troubles in Tabriz, northwestern Iran, and Ahwaz, in the southwest. Observers said the attack on Esfahan's Shah Abbas Hotel was the most extreme case so far in the attacks in recent months on symbols of Western civilization and technology.

Martial Law Declared

LD111716Y Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1600 GMT 11 Aug 78 LD

[Text] Here is a government statement in connection with the rioting in Esfahan. The statement is read by Mr Daryush Homayun, minister of information and tourism: [begin recording]

This is to inform the public. Yesterday, a number of rioters, who had no other aim than causing destruction, staged a demonstration in Esfahan, setting fire to public property, including part of the Shah Abbas Hotel, a service station and a few private institutions; they also cut down trees and smashed windows. Consequently, the fear existed that these actions might engulf the entire city.

Following these events--considering it its duty and at the request of local officials--the government declared a period of 1 month's martial law in Esfahan in order to prevent further destruction and damage to public property as well as killings.

It is regrettable that, while our country is taking firm steps toward expanding liberalization, a handful of troublemakers and misled individuals, whose actions are contrary to the principles of humanity and Islamic precepts and which only serve the interest of antinational elements, are causing disorder and damage to property and endangering lives.

Obviously these savage, antipopular and inhuman acts, which are also condemned under Islam, will not make the slightest difference in the government's decision to promote and increase individual freedom and to expand the political climate in the country. It is to protect these very freedoms and to safeguard the security of our dear countrymen that the government deems it its duty to put an end to such rioting by using firm measures.

The government will take all the necessary measures to arrest and punish the rioters and troublemakers within the law. It will not allow a handful of misled individuals who are unaware to human principles and national and religious considerations to subject the safety of the country to their savagery. [end recording]

Further Report

LD111718Y Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1600 GMT 11 Aug 78 LD

[Text] Following the destructive rioting--the attacks on banks, cinemas and public places as well as the setting fire to these institutions--security forces were forced to intervene, and in order to disperse the troublemakers they fired some shots over their heads.

At 1600 today at the request of local officials, the government instructed Lieutenant General Naji, commander of artillery and rockets, to declare martial law in Esfahan and its suburbs from 2000 today. According to the martial law provisions, which were broadcast by Esfahan television, a curfew will come into effect from 2000 in Esfahan and its suburbs, and anybody caught outside after this hour will be dealt with in accordance with the martial law provisions.

The statement issued in this regard states that any assembly of more than three people before 2000, as well as the carrying of any weapons, are forbidden.

Information Minister Comments

LD111830Y Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1600 GMT 11 Aug 78 LD

[Text] In an interview with our correspondent, Minister of Information and Tourism Daryush Homayun explained the government's measures to maintain order in Esfahan: [begin recording]

[Question] Mr Homayun, as the government's spokesman you have announced that martial law has been declared in Esfahan. The first question which comes to mind regards the legal procedures in connection with the martial law declaration.

[Answer] According to the law, in connection with declaring martial law, the duration must be mentioned and both houses of parliament must approve it. However, the law also states that if, in certain situations, emergency situations require the immediate application of martial law, then the houses of parliament will be informed later. As both the Majlis and the Senate are in summer recess, they will be requested to hold an extraordinary meeting and asked to approve the declaration of martial law in Esfahan. As regards its duration, this has been mentioned in the statement: 1 month.

[Question] Could you tell us about the extent of the damage and loss of life following the rioting in Esfahan?

[Answer] Assessing the extent of the damage is not yet possible, for a great many shops and institutions were attacked; they were set on fire and windows were smashed. Morever, a great many private cars were set on fire; a few firefighting vehicles were also set on fire. Therefore, the damage will have to be assessed later. According to reports we have received, during clashes between the security forces and the rioters and troublemakers, and as a result of shooting from both sides, four troublemakers were killed and seven wounded. Five policemen were also wounded by firing and shooting by rioters. Forty security officers were also wounded as a result of stonethrowing and incendiary devices. Fourteen firefighting men were injured by bricks and sticks while they were trying to put out fires.

[Question] If similar rioting should take place in other towns, will the government take the same measures?

[Answer] If circumstances so require, the government will obviously use its authority, including the establishment of a period of martial law; for the government's aim is to put down any kind of rioting, disorder, disturbance and attempts to cause destruction and damage to public property. Imposing martial law is one of the measures which is available to the government.

[Question] Considering that the government has imposed martial law in Esfahan, the question which comes to mind is whether the government has changed its position with regard to rioting?

[Answer] The government has not changed its position in the slightest. The government's decision has always been and will continue to be to use any legal means at its disposal to prevent rioting and sabotage and prevent those who participate in such actions from causing disorder and disturbing the process of liberalization in the country, for the main intention of these individuals is to disrupt that government program.

[Question] Have you identified those responsible for the rioting?

[Answer] Naturally, a number of people have been arrested; the responsible elements will be identified, prosecuted and dealt with according to the law. However, a regrettable point in this connection is that these elements are using people who are under the age where the law can act against them. For example, those who attacked the Shah Abbas Hotel in Esfahan and set fire to it were young people under 18 years of age. This is really regrettable, and families should be warned to prevent their children from being manipulated by saboteurs, antinational elements and those who have no belief in the principles of religion. [end recording]

Military Governor's Statement

LD111958Y Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1600 GMT 11 Aug 78 LD

[Esfahan Military Governor's Statement No 1]

[Text] In order to maintain order, peace and prevent sabotage, the provisions of martial law will be imposed in Esfahan and the suburbs. We ask citizens to adhere to the following and to do their utmost to cooperate in order to restore order:

1. From 2000 today until 0600 the following day, any movements from one place to another are absolutely forbidden. Individuals who violate the curfew will be dealt with according to the military governorship's regulations.

2. Assemblies and gatherings of any kind and for any reason are definitely forbidden if such assemblies include more than three persons.

3. The carrying of any weapons in any form is absolutely forbidden.

4. Provocative measures of any kind are absolutely forbidden.

5. Those responsible for supplying public provisions, including bakers, butchers, grocers, pharmacists and the like, are not allowed to close their businesses. The people of Esfahan are advised to do their shopping before the time the curfew takes effect.

I expect the esteemed and faithful citizens of Esfahan and the suburbs to cooperate with the military forces in order to restore order and security. They should bear in mind that the restoration of order and public security is in the interest of them all.

Meanwhile, the headquarters of the military governor will be based in the Esfahan Police Department.

Signed: Lt Gen Reza Naji, military governor of Esfahan and the suburbs

Second Statement Issued

LD112000Y Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1600 GMT 11 Aug 78 LD

[Esfahan Military Governor's Statement No 2]

[Text] At the request of the Security Council of the province, his imperial majesty the shahanshah has permitted the imposition of martial law in Esfahan for the protection of life, property and the reputation of the Esfahani citizens. Consequently, the dear citizens are requested to do their utmost to cooperate with the security forces to restore order, in view of the following:

1. Starting from 2000 today, any movements from one place to another are forbidden in Esfahan; those violating the times declared will be dealt with in accordance with the regulations set out by the military governorship.

2. The formation of any assembly, in any form or for any reason, if it consists of more than three persons, is forbidden.

3. The carrying of any weapons, whether firearms or otherwise, is absolutely forbidden.

4. Any provocative measures of any kind are absolutely forbidden.

5. Those responsible for supplying public provisions, such as bakers, butchers, grocers, pharmacists or the like, are not allowed to close their shops. The esteemed citizens are advised to secure their requirements before the time the curfew takes effect.

6. Curfew regulations--until further notice--fix the times of the curfew from 2000 to 0600 the next morning.

7. Passengers who intend to leave Esfahan must be at passenger terminals or the airport before 2000.

8. Travel agencies must make arrangements so that their services leave Esfahan before 2000.

9. Vehicles arriving in Esfahan must arrange their arrival schedules so that they are in Esfahan after 0700.

10. Passengers must not be seen off on departure or welcomed on arrival.

11. A number of taxis will be available at police stations to attend to the public's needs, so citizens may contact their local police stations.

12. The esteemed citizens are requested, in order to cooperate with the military governor, to immediately report any assembly or demonstrations to the nearest police station.

Signed: Lt Gen Reza Naji, military governor of Esfahan and the suburbs

Airport Closed at Night

LD120914Y Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0300 GMT 12 Aug 78 LD

[Text] Following the declaration of a state of emergency and the imposing of martial law in Esfahan, the Civil Aviation Organization announced last night that Esfahan airport will be closed until further notice to all flights from 2000 until 0600. But airport officials, the control tower and the airport technical and electronics installations will continue their tasks with regard to controlling Esfahan's airspace and guiding aircraft.

The Civil Aviation Organization's statement says: Should an aircraft crossing Esfahan's airspace at night be forced to land at Esfahan airport because of technical difficulties, its passengers will not be allowed to leave the airport prior to 0700. Airlines should work out their flight schedules in such a manner as to enable the aircraft and their passengers to leave Esfahan airport before 2000.

In a statement last night Iran Air announced that its nightly flights to Esfahan have been canceled until further notice. The two flights to Esfahan were canceled last night and the flights to Shiraz did not stop in Esfahan.

Quiet Reported

LD121014Y Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0400 GMT 12 Aug 78 LD

[Report by correspondent Keyvan Pezeshki from the Esfahan radio and television center on 12 August--recorded]

[Excerpt] Last night Esfahan spent its first night under martial law. The evening was quiet thanks to broad cooperation from the citizens of Esfahan, and following the issuance of two statements by the military governor of Esfahan forbidding the movement of vehicles in the city of Esfahan.

As I am speaking to you now, Esfahan has regained its normal appearance and movement continues on the streets. Last night Esfahan's shah-loving people proved that they desire the establishment of law and order and tranquillity in the city and that they are ready to struggle against any disruption of this tranquillity and order.

Governor Thanks Citizens

LD122118Y Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 2000 GMT 12 Aug 78 LD

[Text] Twenty-four hours after the declaration of martial law in Esfahan, the military governor of Esfahan and suburbs thanked the people for their cooperation in the restoration of tranquillity in this region. The Esfahan military governor said while expressing gratitude to the citizens of the city: Undoubtedly this cooperation is a major factor in the establishment of tranquillity. I expect the citizens to continue their cooperation with the military officials.

Comments on Curfew

LD131228Y Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1000 GMT 13 Aug 78 LD

[Text] Lieutenant General Naji, the military governor of Esfahan and its suburbs, paid a visit to Esfahan's main bazaar, and while correspondents of mass media were present and all shopkeepers had opened their shops and resumed their business, stated that the reason for the establishment of the military governorship is to restore complete peace and order for the people.

Commenting on the possibility of altering the curfew, he said: It depends on the state of peace and public order. He added that at present the curfew begins at 2000. However, if it is felt that any change is necessary, permission will be sought from his imperial majesty in this regard, for the convenience of the people. He then said: However, I believe it is still too early. We must give the people more time. Meanwhile, we ought to wait, so that the troublemakers may come to their senses and correct their attitude.

Lieutenant General Naji then added: If I use the word people in my remarks, I mean the people I am meeting today, without having to carry any weapons. When I speak of rioters and troublemakers, I mean those groups which threatened the shopkeepers, who, if they opened their shops, would die or have their shops set on fire. The Esfahanis are a shah-loving and patriotic people; they closed their shops against their wishes.

The military governor of Esfahan then added: The troublemakers, I believe, were an Islamic Marxist band. They were under the impression that by staging demonstrations in the streets and setting fire to banks and manufacturing and economic institutions, they would be preparing the way for their ally.

In answer to correspondents' questions concerning any change in the length of the martial law, which had been declared for 1 month, the military governor said: The martial law has been in force for 36 hours so far. It is too early to make a decision yet. If we wait for another 4 or 5 days, then we will be able to see the response. As it is possible that by then the troublemakers might have become repentant, then there might be a chance to review the situation and possibly change the length of the martial law.

The military governor added: One or two main perpetrators have hidden themselves in their houses; we must first try to ascertain their mentality and then reach a decision. However, what is certain is that it is still too early to reach a decision.

In answer to a question about the number of people arrested, he said: We must divide those arrested into two categories: First, those who violated the curfew hours innocently, without hearing the regulations fully. These people have been arrested and will be released once their innocence has been proved, for our duty is to provide peace and tranquility for the people. The second group constitutes instigators who have also been arrested. These individuals will be handed over to the military tribunal to be dealt with in accordance with Article Five of the martial law regulations.

After his remarks the military governor spoke to Esfahani shopkeepers about reopening their shops and supplying the people's needs.

EXPLOSION IN TEHRAN RESTAURANT INJURES 14

LD140904Y Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0400 GMT 14 Aug 78 LD

[Text] The famous Khansalar Restaurant in Tehran was destroyed last night as the result of an explosion. The explosion was very strong and took place when the restaurant was packed with people. Approximately 14 persons were seriously injured and damage was caused.

RASTAKHIZ, reporting this morning on the exp osion, quotes the proprietor as saying that the explosion happened when around 70 persons were dining. The proprietor is reported as saying that at around 2100 a person carrying a bag entered the main hall and left it behind when he departed. The bag then exploded.

NEW OUTBREAK OF RIOTING IN SHIRAZ REPORTED

TA121637Y Paris AFP in English 1630 GMT 12 Aug 78 TA

[Text] Tehran, Aug 12 (AFP)--Ten persons died today in Shiraz, central Iran, when security forces cracked down on a fresh outbreak of rioting, according to unofficial reports reaching here.

Other incidents from elsewhere in Iran were reported. In Tabriz, university students draped the university building in black as a sign of mourning. In Esfahan, the historical capital, which yesterday was put under a month's curfew, British made Chieftain tanks were stationed in the city centre. Esfahan was reported calm after 3 days' rioting which, according to the press, resulted in 4 persons being killed and 66 injured. Helmeted soldiers with guns at the ready were today patrolling the streets.

Political opposition spokesmen meanwhile said today they could do nothing in face of the latest developments, saying that "the people are in revolt and do not believe promises of liberalisation."

The shah, who is in Nowshahr on the Caspian Sea, is expected to return to Tehran in the next few days. He told Western reporters on Thursday that as long as it was up to him, he would carry through liberalisation in a orderly manner.

MAJLIS TO HOLD SPECIAL SESSION 20 AUGUST

LD130933Y Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0400 GMT 13 Aug 78 LD

[Excerpt] Following the declaration of martial law in Esfahan, Mr Abdollah Riazi, the speaker of the Majlis, announced last night that on the request of the government the Majlis will hold an open extraordinary meeting on 20 August in order to discuss the martial law in Esfahan. Despite the fact that both houses of parliament are in their summer recess, arrangements for their extraordinary meeting were made ysterday and the deputies were invited to attend it.

EARTHQUAKE RECORDED SOUTHWEST OF TEHRAN

LD110936Y Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0800 GMT 11 Aug 78 LD

[Text] Last night an earthquake with an absolute force of 3.8 degrees on the Richter scale rocked Hamadan's environs. Tehran University Geophysics Institite confirming this report announced that at 23 hours, 51 minutes, 17 seconds last night the earthquake took place 300 kilometers southwest of Tehran and was recorded by the seismographical center of the Geophysics Institute in Tehran. No reports have so far been received of any damage and losses caused by the earthquake.

AFGHANISTAN

TARAKI STATES PRINCIPLES OF AFGHAN REVOLUTION

LDT111926Y Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 27 Jul 78 LD

[Text of interview with Nur Mohammad Taraki, prime minister of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan [DRA], with Pakistani journalist Mohajid Ali in Kabul on 25 July--read by announcer]

[Text] Question: What factor prompted you to carry out a revolution in Afghan society in this phase of history?

Answer: The poverty and daily increasing material and moral privations of the peoples of my country prompted me and all the struggling and true members of the PDP, both in the army and in civilian life, to throw off the despotic and exploitative yoke of Afghanistan's aristocracy, which enjoyed increasing support and direct backing from international reaction and imperialism, and to pave the way for the advancement and progress of our deprived working people.

Question: As far as we know, the revolution is Afghanistan's own internal affair. Why, then, have certain countries displayed such a strong reaction to your revolution?

Answer: Although the great April revolution has been an important internal event in dear Afghanistan, its positive and all-round effects on the minds of its workers are visible throughout the world. Our revolution is a good example of the salvation and liberation of the working peoples from the yoke of oppression and exploitation of domestic and international reaction.

Question: What were the reactions of the governments of your neighbor countries toward the revolution, and are you pleased with it?

Answer: As our neighbors have recognized our government we have no particular complaints against them. We are particularly pleased with our great neighbor the Soviet Union for having recognized our revolutionary government within some 100 hours and for not withholding thereafter various kinds of impartial material and moral assistance.

Question: The new leadership of the DRA has adopted a radically different course in domestic and foreign policy. Bearing this in mind, what is your stand with regard to your difference with Pakistan?

Answer: The principles of domestic and foreign policy are the same as previously published in the basic guidelines of our government. The political difference with neighboring Pakistan on the Pushtun and Baluchi question remains unresolved. I hope that this difference will be resolved through peaceful and friendly means.

Question: You consider your revolution as a national democratic revolution. Does it follow certain other similar revolutions in the world or do you intend to emulate them?

Answer: Our revolution and government are a people's revolution and government. In other words, it is a government which protects the interests of the workers, peasants, the progressive intelligentsia and other workers in our dear country and, even on an international level, supports the interests of the classes and sections of the people.

Question: Some 3 months have passed since the revolution. Are you satisfied with the work done by the revolutionary government?

Answer: Bearing in mind the limited means at our disposal, we are satisfied with the measures we have taken during approximately 2 and 1/2 months. Kindly refer to the report on our measures carried by the radio and television. We are confident that you, too, will be satisfied with our measures.

Question: Land reform is considered one of the prime tasks of national democratic revolutions. In your approved program of land reform will you distribute government land and the land which you take from big feudal landlords among the landless peasantry or will you set up cooperatives for them?

Answer: Land reform is one of the main aims of our people's revolution. Before embarking on securing the lofty aims of the April revolution we lifted the heavy and backbreaking burden from the shoulders of the peasants without or with little land by getting rid of high-interest mortgages, which have always oppressed our toiling peasants. The setting up of cooperatives for them is being studied by the government. When we begin land reform this issue will be resolved in no uncertain terms.

Question: You have abolished the constitution of the Daud regime. Do you have a program for drawing up a new constitution for the people? If you have, then when?

Answer: The constitution of the corrupt Daud regime was not in the interest of the toiling classes and sections. Therefore, it had to disappear. Since the existing government is a people's government and the representative of the working classes and sections, the constitution it adopts will also be a people's constitution. Its elaboration and implementation will take place at the right time.

Question: The propaganda machine of the West and the reactionaries constantly disseminates propaganda to the effect that the revolutionary regime in Afghanistan is not in control of the situation and that certain tribes have risen against the government. How near the truth is this?

Answer: This propaganda is devoid of truth. The DRA is in complete control of the situation and full security is in force throughout the country. Our people's government enjoys the complete support of our noble people, and celebrations are taking place everywhere to mark the inception of the DRA.

SUPREME COUNCIL'S 30 JULY SESSION REPORTED

LDT121942Y Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1530 GMT 30 Jul 78 LD

[Excerpts] The Supreme Council of Ministers met at People's House under the chairmanship of Comrade Nur Mohammad Taraki, chairman of the Revolutionary Council and prime minister, from 0900 until 1400 today and discussed, analyzed and approved the following issues:

The separation of the Directorates of Clearance and Currency from the [Kabul] University organization and their amalgamation in the Administrative Directorate of the Ministry of Higher Education; the approval of 45 million afghanis in addition to the existing budget for the Ministry of Communications for the purpose of correcting the ministry's technical shortcomings; and the publishing of a special postage stamp to mark the day of the inception of the Afghanistan People's Democratic Party.

It was also decided that the Bana'i Company should sell its properties and invest the money in the construction field. Also, the Ministries of Finance and Planning were commissioned to provide and secure new capital resources for the company.

It was also decided that the Ministry of Finance should provide 5.5 million afghanis for the completion of the Interior Ministry's unfinished construction projects.

The Ministry of Culture's proposal involving 1.1 million afghanis for the purpose of Afghanistan and also the Ministry of Radio and Television's proposal pertaining to building movie theaters in Badakhshan and Nimruz provinces and on the renovation and completion of existing government movie theaters were approved by the Supreme Council of Ministers.

Similarly, pertaining to the apartments owned by the Defense Ministry in Seyyed Nur Mohammad Shah Menah [district of Kabul], the Supreme Council of Ministers approved of their sale to officers of the Afghanistan People's Armed Forces with 25-year mortgages.

Regarding persons called up for military service up through 1953 and persons who have avoided military service, the Supreme Council of Ministers decided that they should be exempt from callups and from any penal consequences arising therefrom.

On the work hours of government officials and employees during the blessed month of Ramadan, the Supreme Council of Ministers decided that they should be present from 0700 until 1300 without interruption. The hours of workers in industries are to be worked out by the industries on the basis of a 6-hour day.

The 100 million afghani loan to Kabul municipality from the Bank of Afghanistan was approved so that the municipality can expropriate the land coming under the Khoshhal Khan and Ayyub Khan Menah project.

Also, permission was given to the Ministry of Water and Power to carry out studies pertaining to drying up marshy lands in Kabul.

POLITIBURO APPROVES AMIN'S REPORT ON NONALINED MEETING

LD121120Y Kabul in Dari to Europe 1600 GMT 29 Jul 78 LD

[Text] The Secretariat of the Central Committee of the Afghanistan People's Democratic Party [PDP] has reported:

A session of the Politburo of the Afghanistan PDP was held at People's House today from 1100 to 1205 under the chairmanship of Comrade Nur Mohammad Taraki, general secretary of the Central Committee of the Afghanistan PDP, president of the Revolutionary Council and prime minister.

Comrade Hafizollah Amin, deputy prime minister and minister of foreign affairs of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan, who recently participated as head of the Afghan delegation at the conference of foreign ministers of nonalined countries in Belgrade, reported to the party's Politburo on the developments at the Belgrade conference and the stand of the Afghan delegation therein. The Politburo approved Comrade Hafizollah Amin's report and the stand of the Afghan delegation at the Belgrade conference.

The Politburo also discussed and exchanged views on the subject of setting up agricultural cooperatives with the aim of helping and serving peasants.

GOVERNMENT AFFIRMS RESPECT FOR PRIVATE PROPERTY

LDT131458Y Kabul Domestic Service in Pushtu 1530 GMT 30 Jul 78 LD

[Text] The following is an announcement by the Government of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan concerning the implementation of Revolutionary Council Decree No 6:

The Revolutionary Council of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan has issued its Decree No 6 for the sake of relieving persons who own little or no land from the burden of loans that they owed on the basis of usury, advance sale [salam] and mortgage of land property. Decree No 6 is only applicable to loans or mortgages which have been granted on the basis of land. The provisions of this decree are by no means directed to transactions concerning shops, houses, apartments, inns or commercial transactions.

Owing to the profound respect that it observes for private ownership, the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan requests all owners of shops, houses, apartments, inns and patriotic businessmen to proceed with their transactions with full confidence in the principle of respect for private ownership. All those persons who attempt to make illegal use of Decree No 6 of the Revolutionary Council with respect to transactions concerning shops, houses, apartments, inns and commercial affairs and thereby cause harm to others will be subject to prosecution by the Government of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan.

LAND DISTRIBUTED TO 158 FAMILIES IN HELMAND PROVINCE

LD122050Y Kabul in Dari to Europe 1730 GMT 12 Aug 78 LD

[Excerpt] On the basis of the auspicious and popular decision of Comrade Nur Mohammad Taraki, secretary general of the Central Committee of the People's Democratic Party [PDP] of Afghanistan, president of the Revolutionary Council and prime minister, land has been distributed to 158 deserving families in the Shemalan Canal area in Helmand Province.

A delegation of the Ministry of Agriculture and Land Reforms, which had previously arrived for this purpose in Lashkargah, in the center of Helmand Province, yesterday began the distribution of land to deserving families in the presence of the governor, the president of the provincial court, the Helmand police commandant and the director of land reforms. Land was distributed to 158 families with each family receiving 10 acres. During the land distribution, the governor of Helmand, [name indistinct], described the progressive aims of the democratic republic and said: It is a source of great pleasure that today, on the basis of the basic guidelines of the revolutionary duties of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan and in accordance with the auspicious orders of the great leader of the people of Afghanistan, Comrade Nur Mohammad Taraki, secretary general of the Central Committee of the PDP, (?fertile) land is being justly distributed, for the first time, to a number of our deserving brothers in the Helmand Valley Development Project.

BANGLADESH

IRAQ, BANGLADESH BEGIN ECONOMIC TALKS IN DACCA

JN121623Y Baghdad INA in English 1530 GMT 12 Aug 78 JN

[Text] Dacca, 12 August--Iraq and Bangladesh started talks here today aimed at promoting their trade and economic cooperation. Iraq was represented by a delegation led by Faruq Dawud, director general of external relations at the Iraqi Trade Ministry, while Bangladesh was represented by a delegation led by Mamimul Haq, joint secretary of Commerce and Foreign Trade Ministry. Speaking to INA, Dawud said there are big possibilities for enlarging bilateral trade activities. He noted with satisfaction that [the] Bangladesh side expressed readiness to welcome wide economic cooperation from Iraq. The Iraqi delegation to the talks arrived here yesterday.

INDIA

VAJPAYEE LEAVES FOR JAPAN, ROK, HONG KONG VISITS

BK140705Y Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 14 Aug 78 BK

[Text] The external affairs minister has said that India and Japan can extend their economic cooperation in third countries. Mr Vajpayee was talking to newsmen at Delhi airport last night before his departure for Tokyo.

Mr Vajpayee will be on a weeklong visit to Japan, South Korea and Hong Kong.

He said he is going to renew old acquaintances and forge new friendships. Mr Vajpayee pointed out that India and Japan are facing similar problems in the field of nuclear energy, although their positions differ on the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty.

Mr Vajpayee indicated that the topic is likely to figure in his talks with the Japanese leaders, but he is not carrying any specific proposal.

Mr Vajpayee disclosed that the decision about his visit was taken during the visit of the Japanese foreign minister last month. It was decided that the annual consultations between the two countries should be upgraded from the official to the ministrial level.

He said avenues of further mutual cooperation with Korea will be explored.

USSR'S BARKAUSKAS HAILS INDO-SOVIET FRIENDSHIP TREATY

BK131024Y Delhi General Overseas Service in English 1000 GMT 13 Aug 78 BK

[Text] The Soviet vice president, Mr Barkauskas, has said the Indo-Soviet friendship treaty is unbreakable and it will continue in the years to come. Mr Barkauskas was speaking at a function in Madras organized by the Indo-Soviet Cultural Society.

INDIA, USSR TO SIGN LONG TERM TRADE AGREEMENT THIS YEAR

BK121038Y Delhi General Overseas Service in English 1000 GMT 12 Aug 78 BK

[Text] India and the Soviet Union are to sign a long term economic and trade program this year. This was stated by a government spokesman in an interview to Soviet land and new review [as heard]. He said the program would open new frontiers and accelerate the pace of development.

WEST GERMAN ECONOMICS MINISTER ARRIVES IN NEW DELHI

BK121040Y Delhi General Overseas Service in English 1000 GMT 12 Aug 78 BK

[Text] The minister of economics of the Federal Republic of Germany, Dr Lambsdorff, arrived in New Delhi today on a weeklong visit to this country. He will have discussions on expanding economic cooperation between the two countries.

Meets Indian Officials

LD121530Y Hamburg DPA in German 1442 GMT 12 Aug 78 LD

[Text] New Delhi--Federal Economics Minister Lambsdorff in talks with leading Indian politicians in New Delhi today stressed that the federal republic in her own interest worked for a liberal import policy and against protectionist measures within the EEC. Indian President Reddy, Finance Minister Patel and Trade Minister Dharia had been unanimous in voicing concern and displeasure at the EEC's trade policy. Particularly affected are India's textile experts which are an important earner of foreign currency for this developing country.

DESAI LAUDS INDIA'S CLOSE RELATIONS WITH NEIGHBORS

BK121037Y Delhi General Overseas Service in English 1000 GMT 12 Aug 78 BK

[Text] Prime Minister Morarji Desai has said that since the ruling Janata government assumed office special attention has been paid to developing friendly relations with Nepal and other neighboring countries. Speaking at a function in New Delhi to celebrate the 31st anniversary of India's independence, Mr Desai said the ancient Indo-Nepal relations have undergone a further qualitative change. The recent agreement on trade and transit treaties symbolizes a new spirit of cordial and friendly neighborliness.

CONGRESS-I WITHDRAWS RESOLUTION SEEKING INQUIRY IN LOK SABHA

BK121608Y Delhi Domestic Service in English 1230 GMT 12 Aug 78 BK

[Text] In the Lok Sabha today Congress-I member Vasant Sathe withdrew his resolution which asked for a commission of inquiry to go into Mr Charan Singh's allegation that he was surrounded by corrupt persons in the government. His withdrawal touched off a furor in the house which at one stage turned into pandemonium. Shouting and gesticulating Congress-I members left their seats and approached the speaker's podium and threatened that they would not allow the proceedings to continue. They were protesting against the speaker's decision to hear members on the admissability of a motion by Janata members seeking to reprimand Mr Vasant Sathe for contempt of the house. Members of the ruling party, supported by members from other parties, said that Mr Sathe had insisted on discussion of the topic. The house was called to session, on a holiday today, mainly for this purpose. But at the last moment he withdrew the resolution denying them an opportunity to discuss an important matter.

After more than 2 and ½ hours of procedural wrangle the speaker ruled that there is no substance in the contention that Mr Sathe had committed any contempt of the house by withdrawing his resolution. Mr Sathe justified withdrawal of his resolution on the plea that the Rajya Sabha has in the meantime passed the resolution asking for a committee of that house to go into the issue. He said he did not want to prejudice the working of that committee.

LANDOWNERS DEMONSTRATE NEAR DESAI'S RESIDENCE

BK131556Y Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 13 Aug 78 BK

[Text] About 160 persons were arrested today near the prime minister's house for allegedly indulging in stone throwing and other violent activities. They belonged to a group of 5,000 landowners of (Kanjaulah) who demonstrated before the prime minister's house against the distribution of village grassland to the Harijans.

According to the police, they had to resort to tear gassing when the demonstrators became unruly. About eight policemen including two senior officers have been injured. The demonstrators became violent when the prime minister told a deputation of the land-owners that he cannot interfere in the dispute as it is in the jurisdiction of the village Panchayat [council].

LADAKH HIT BY WORST FLOODS IN CENTURY

BK130848Y Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 13 Aug 78 BK

[Text] Ladakh has been affected by the worst floods in a century. The civil and military authorities assisted by citizens have mounted a massive relief operation to help the people of the region.

According to official reports in Leh, the unprecedented floods in the Indus have damaged houses, washed away bridges and inundated several villages. About 15,000 people living in villages on both banks of the river have been affected. Four hundred persons have been rendered homeless because of house collapses. The 110 million rupee (Takana) hydroelectric project which is under construction has been badly hit. The Jammu and Kashmir works minister, Mr (Soman Nagu), on a visit to Leh has said that the estimated loss of the project is about 1 million rupees.

NEPAL

BRIBERY CHARGE IN BOEING AIRCRAFT SALE TO BE INVESTIGATED

BK111631Y Katmandu External Service in English 1450 GMT 10 Aug 78 BK

[Text] His majesty's government has constituted a three-member commission headed by the Rashtriya Panchayat member, Mr Onkar Prashad Gauchan, to investigate the case within 1 month about the purchase of the Royal Nepal Airlines Corporation's first jet aircraft from the Boeing company of the United States.

The other members of the commission are two joint secretaries, one each from the Home Panchayat Ministry and the Ministry of Law and Justice.

It was recently (?learned) that one of the members of the then board of directors had been bribed by the Boeing company of the United States.

PAKISTAN

AFP REPORTS RESHUFFLE IN HIGH ECHELONS OF AIR FORCE

BK130716Y Hong Kong AFP in English 1600 GMT 12 Aug 78 BK

[Text] Karachi, Aug 12 (AFP)--Two air vice marshals and five air commodores of the Pakistan Air Force have been retired from service and five other air commodores promoted to the rank of air vice marshals, according to an official announcement here today.

No reasons have been given, but these retirements and promotions have taken place with the induction into office of the new chief of the air staff, Air Marshal Mohammad Anwar Shamim, who replaced Air Marshal Zulifiqar Ali Khan recently.

Air Vice Marshal Mian Sadruddin and Air Vice Marshal Mahmood Hasan have been retired.

JOURNALISTS ARRESTED FOR PRESS FREEDOM PROTESTS

BK131424Y Hong Kong AFP in English 1415 GMT 13 Aug 78 BK

[Text] Karachi, Aug 13 (AFP)--another twelve persons, primarily journalists and printers, have been sentenced in the past 2 days by summary military courts to between 7 and 9 months imprisonment for taking part in unlawful demonstrations against the regime's press policies.

Despite these summary trials, the demonstrations are being held in small batches daily in a busy shopping centre in the city.

As a matter of routine the demonstrators numbering six or seven come on the streets carrying banners in support of press freedom and demanding reinstatement of 22 dismissed pressmen in the government-controlled newspapers. They are arrested by the police.

Meanwhile, police arrested Mr Mohammad Sham, editor, and Mr Ashraf Shad, executive editor, of the local left-wing Urdu weekly MEYAR last night for defying martial law regulations.

POLICE ARREST TWO FOR ATTACK ON PLO OFFICE

BK131635Y Hong Kong AFP in English 0638 GMT 13 Aug 78 BK

[Text] Islamabad, Aug 13 (AFP)--Two Arabs suspected to be responsible for the 5 August machinegun attack on the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO) mission here were arrested Saturday, newspaper reports today said.

Three Palestinians and a Pakistani policeman were slain in the attack. The reports named the two accused as Jamal Muhammad Abu Ahmad and Muhammad Hasan Abu Shahda.

They were reportedly hauled up by a Federal Investigation Agency team from a house in Lahore, capital of Punjab Province, about 180 miles southeast of here. Authorities declined to disclose the names and nationality of the two suspects before the investigation is completed.

The accused were brought to nearby Rawalpindi where a magistrate remanded them to police custody for 13 days. Their faces were covered when they were produced in the court.

The PLO mission here had blamed the Iraqi Government for the attack, but the charges were denied by the Iraqi Embassy.

HAQ RECEIVES MESSAGE FROM PDRY PRESIDENT

BK121539Y Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT 12 Aug 78 BK

[Text] The special emissary of the president of the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen and communications minister this afternoon called on Chief Martial Law Administrator Gen Mohammad Ziaul Haq in Rawalpindi and handed him a message from President 'Ali Nasir Muhammad. The foreign secretary, Mr Shahnawaz, was also present on the occasion.

Earlier, the communications minister exchanged views with the foreign secretary on matters of mutual interest.

SRI LANKA

PARLIAMENT DEPRIVES FORMER OFFICIALS OF CIVIC RIGHTS

OW112225Y Hong Kong AFP in English 2206 GMT 11 Aug 78 OW

[Excerpts] Colombo, Aug 11 (AFP)--Sri Lanka's Parliament tonight passed two controversial bills with the required two-thirds majority to deprive a former minister and 33 others of their civic rights.

Mr Felix R. Dias Bandaranaike, former local government minister; Mr Neale De Alwis, former deputy minister of local government; and Mr A.H.M. Fowzie, former Colombo mayor; are among those on whom civic disabilities are to be imposed.

The major opposition party, the minority Tamil United Liberation Front and the Sri Lanka Freedom Party of former Prime Minister Mrs Sirimavo Bandaranaike opposed the two bills which were passed with 137 voting for and 17 against.

Two bills had to be adopted with a two-thirds majority as the constitutional court had held that the operative clauses in the bills were not consistent with the constitution. The bills were based on the findings to two commissions which inquired into maladministration in municipal councils and urban councils during the previous regime of Mrs Bandaranaike.

Under this legislation the 34 men will be disqualified for seven years from being a voter or from being elected to a local authority as a member. They will also be disqualified for all time from being appointed as a judical officer or from being employed in the government service, the local government service or in any state corporation or any other state institution. The legislation also makes provision to recover from them any losses sustained by local authorities as a result of their actions.

The prime minister, Mr Ranasinghe Premadasa, opening the debate, said the legislation was aimed at cleansing public life in keeping with a pledge given by the ruling United National Party during last year's election campaign.

Mr Felix R. Dias Bandaranaike and Mr Neale De Alwis have petitioned the Supreme Court appealing to it to quash the findings made against them claiming that natural justice had not prevailed.

BRITISH TRADE TALKS OPEN IN COLOMBO 11 AUGUST

BK121138Y Colombo International Service in English 1045 GMT 12 Aug 78 BK

[Text] Trade talks between Sri Lanka and Britain were held yesterday in Colombo. The discussions were held between the minister of trade, Mr Lalith Athulathmudala, and the parliamentary under secretary of the British Ministry of Trade, Mr (Michael Meecher). Strengthening of trade relations, the export of more nontraditional products and British investments in Sri Lanka were among the matters discussed. Mr (Meecher) also addressed the Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry and said aid from Britain to Sri Lanka will in the future be on the basis of grants rather than on a loan basis. He said he is glad that the Government of Sri Lanka was encouraging foreign investments. One of the purposes of his visit, he said, was also to ascertain the areas in which British technology could be of assistance to the free trade zone.

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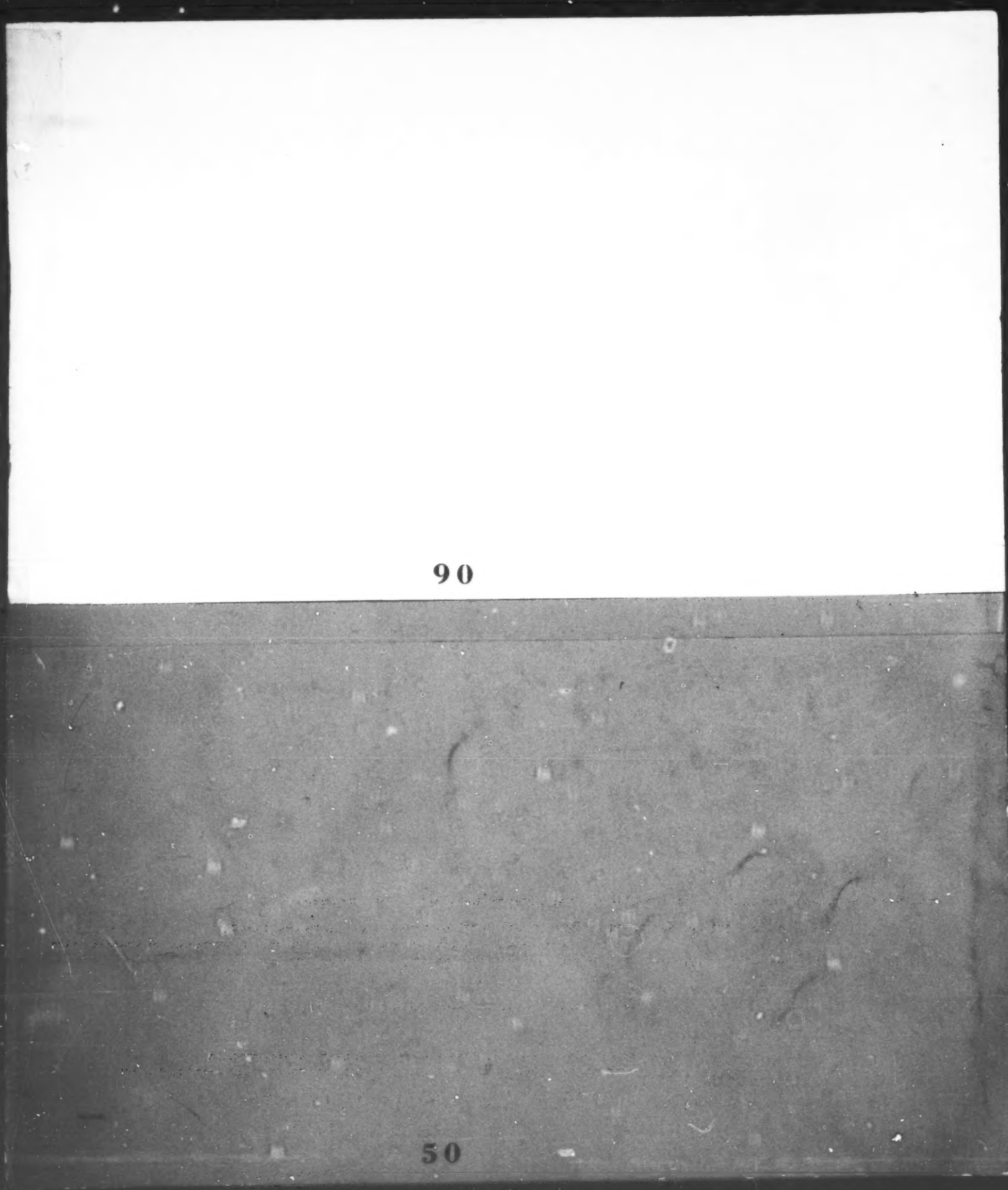
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